

THE
BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND.

THE FOURTH EDITION IMPROVED.

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Mary THE *Frogatt*

BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND

COMPREHENDED IN

A POCKET VOLUME;

Giving a Descriptive View of the
CHIEF VILLAGES, MARKET-TOWNS,
AND CITIES,

Antiquities, Houses, Parks, Plantations, Scenes,
and Situations,

IN ENGLAND AND WALES;

INCLUDING

THE TWO UNIVERSITIES,
LONDON, AND WESTMINSTER.

The whole arranged:
ACCORDING TO THE RESPECTIVE COUNTIES;
AND INTENDED
As A TRAVELLING COMPANION,
TO POINT OUT
WHATEVER IS CURIOUS EITHER IN ART, OR IN NATURE.

THE FOURTH EDITION IMPROVED.

L O N D O N

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THEATRE OF THE WORLD

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WHATEVER may be the merits of other attempts of this kind, by being voluminous, they can hardly be said to answer the purpose for which they are chiefly designed, viz. the general use of the road. In this view, the author of the following sheets has endeavoured to direct the Traveller to such particulars as appear to be worthy his attention, by assisting him with a Pocket Companion for that purpose.

Few occasional travellers have acquired a competent knowledge of their native country, so as to be able, in any tolerable degree, to satisfy rational curiosity: To expect that they are every where to find persons upon the spot, sufficiently qualified to give the necessary information, were vain: Without such a guide, therefore, as the present, the inquisitive are likely to be deprived of the great pleasure and satisfaction arising from an agreeable Tour.

But, though the intention of this volume be chiefly to assist the Traveller, it will, at the same time, prove not unuseful to those, who are desirous of forming at home, an idea of the magnificence which this island boasts;

by

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by a representation of objects, which perhaps they want the opportunity of visiting.

In order to answer both these intentions, care has been taken to give a succinct account of the cities, market-towns, and considerable villages, in England and Wales; their trade, situation, distance from London, &c. to describe the principal churches, and other remarkable structures, the seats of the nobility and gentry, ruins of castles, monasteries, and other monuments of antiquity; curious machines, paintings, statues, cascades, and other pieces of art: together with the uncommon productions of nature, such as reciprocating springs, mines, caverns, subterraneous rivers, curious stones, metals, minerals, and petrifications.

With a view to render these accounts authentic, regard has been paid to whatever information could be procured from gentlemen residing in different parts. But assistances of this kind are never adequate to the want of them. The candid reader therefore is requested to communicate, to the Bookseller, his remarks on what errors or omissions he may happen to discover, which will be gratefully acknowledged; and due attention paid to it in a future edition.

The list of Seats belonging to the nobility and gentry, at the end of each county, is doubtless among the number of articles which stands in need of correction; particularly with regard to their respective distances from the nearest market-town, and the names of their present owners: the latter of which is a circumstance

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stance that, in one part or other of the kingdom, is frequently varying. Assistance in these particulars might be considered as of public service; for by that means, a more authentic account of these noble structures would probably be obtained, than has hitherto appeared.

Every edition of this work has received improvement. This fourth edition has been revised throughout and considerably augmented.

1778.

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THE FIRST PART OF THE HISTORY OF THE
REIGN OF CHARLES THE FIRST
BY JOHN HALLAM
ESQ.
OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE
IN THE YEAR 1781

LONDON: Printed by J. DODD, in Pall-mall.
1781.

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BEAU.

CORNWALL. This county, which is the most westerly of England, is bounded on the E. by the river Tamar, on the N. by the Bristol channel, on the W. by the St. George's channel, and on the S. by the British channel. Its figure agrees with the name, which signifies a country in the shape of a horn, or horns. For the whole grows taper from Devonshire quite to the western extremity, where the two points of the Land's-end and the Lizard resemble a pair of horns thrusting themselves out into the ocean.

THE BEAUTIES of ENGLAND.

CORNWALL.

THIS is the most Westerly county in England; and indeed of the whole island of Great-Britain. It is terminated on the E. by the river Tamar, which divides it from Devonshire; on the N. by the Bristol channel; on the W. by the St. George's channel; and on the S. by the British channel. Its figure agrees with the name, which signifies a country in the shape of a horn, or horns. For the whole grows taper from Devonshire quite to the western extremity, where the two points of the Land's-end and the Lizard resemble a pair of horns thrusting themselves out into the ocean.

It is divided into 9 hundreds, and contains 21 parliament boroughs, 31 market towns, 161 parish churches, beside chapels of ease, and betwixt 12 and 1300 villages. Its circumference is computed at 150 miles, and its acres at about 960,000; but, by a survey made in the reign of Edward I. it is said to have contained 1,500,000 acres; whence it seems probable, that the islands of Scilly were then connected to it, though since separated by the sea.

Its chief rivers are the Tamar and Hamel; the former of which rises near Hartland, in the N. W. corner

of Devonshire, runs to the S. and falls into the British channel at Plymouth; the latter falls into the Bristol channel at Padstow.

This county, though mountainous and rocky, hath all kinds of soil: in the valleys plenty of pasture. The land near the sea is manured with a sea-weed, called Orewood, and a fat kind of sand. Here are the best slate tiles, great quantities of which are exported into foreign countries; and moor-stone, which grows in moorish ground, of great use in facing windows, doors, and chimneys, and when polished looks like Egyptian granate. It abounds with mines of tin and lead, with a yellow ore, called Mundic, which affords copper as good as the Swedish.

The horses are generally small; the sheep for the most part have no horns, but have wool equal to any in England. They have great plenty of fish, but what they acquire most profit from are the pilchards, 8 or 900 hogheads of them being generally taken and cured in one season.

LAUNCESTON is the most ancient and the chief town of the county, 214 measured miles from London,--- Launceston-castle was formerly a very strong place, and thence obtained the name of Castle-Terrible; the round hill on which it stands being environed with a triple wall. It was built by William de Morton, E. of Cornwall, soon after the conquest. At present it is so much decayed, that no part of it is used, except that which serves for the county gaol.

LESKARD, 221 miles from London, is one of the largest and best-built towns in Cornwall; and has perhaps the greatest market and trade, especially in the manufacture of leather: here is a handsome town-hall, built on stone pillars, with a turret, and a noble clock with 4 dials. It has a large church, and an eminent free-school.

LESTWITHEL, a well-built town on the river Tay, 4 miles from Bodmin, 230 from Lond. The common gaol is at this place, and it is here that all the county courts are held. Lestwithiel palace was the principal palace

palace and exchequer of the E. and D. of Cornwall, after they removed from the Restormel castle on the adjacent hill.

TRURO, 257 miles from Lond. stands at the conflux of two rivers that almost encompass the town, and form a large wharf; its chief trade consists in shipping off tin and copper ore, found in great quantities in the adjacent mountains. It is a considerable town, with regular streets, a large market-house and church, and the buildings scarcely inferior to any in the county.

BODMIN, 234 miles from Lond. stands almost in the center of the county. Its church, whose spire was destroyed by lightning in 1699, is reckoned the largest in Cornwall. There is a good corn and flesh market. The town is near a mile long, situated in a valley between two hills. A carnival is held every July on Halgaver Moor, near this town, which is much resorted to.

HELSTON, on the river Cober, not far from its influx into the English channel, is a large populous trading town, built in the form of a cross with four streets, thro' each of which runs a stream of water, centring at a large market-house. It has a guildhall, a large church, with a steeple about 90 feet high, which serves as a sea mark. Between Welfton Down and the channel is Loopool Lake, 2 miles long and 5 in compass, where are plenty of a kind of bastard trout.

SALTASH, one league from the dock at Plymouth, to which there is a ferry over the river called Crimble Passage, has a handsome market-house and town-house. The inhabitants trade largely in malt and beer.

CAMELFORD, 14 miles from Launceston, 228 from Lond. Its arms are, a camel passant over a ford.

WESTLOW, 20 miles from Plymouth, on the West of the river Low, or rather on a small creek of the channel opposite Eastlow, to which it is joined by a large stone bridge.

EASTLOW, on the East of the river, is defended by a small battery of guns.

GRAMPOUND, 244 m. from Lond. has a bridge over the river Falle; endowed with large privileges by King Edward III.

PENRYN, 266 m. from Lond. near the entrance of the haven at Falmouth, on the side of Pendennis castle, has neat buildings, with such gardens and orchards that it appears like a town in a wood; well watered with rivulets; an arm of the sea on each side; a good custom-house and key, and trades much in pilchards.

TREGONY is on the same river, 245 m. from Lond. Its chief manufacture is serge.

BOSSINEY, 5 miles from Camelford, has the ruins of a castle reckoned one of the wonders of the county: it stood on two vast rocks; one on an island, the other on the continent, joined by a draw-bridge.

ST. IVES, 7 miles from Penzance, is an ancient town of good repute; but stands so near the sea, that it is greatly incommoded by the waves. Madern hills, in the road from hence to the Land's End, afford an agreeable prospect of the Cornish coast, and the English and Irish channels. Here are several copper mines.

FOWEY, 8 miles from Westlow, 240 from Lond. has a commodious haven in the English channel; is a populous and pretty town, extending about a mile on the West of a river of that name, and has a good share in the fishing trade. Here is a fine old church and the ruins of two towers, built for defence against the French. In the last Dutch war, a chain of 200 feet was drawn across the river.

ST. GERMAN'S, 224 m. from Lond. once a Bishop's see, has still the ruins of the episcopal palace. It is at present only a large extensive village; its chief trade is fishing in Tiddiford river, which falls 10 miles below this town into Plymouth harbour. The priory of St. German's was the seat of a Bishop from the year 937 to 1049; but on the removal of the see to Exeter, which happened in 1050, a prior and monks were established here, whose revenue, at the dissolution of monasteries, was rated at 243l. 8s. The suffragan bishop of Cornwall took his title from hence. In 1575, the family of Eliot purchased the priory house, calling it Port Eliot, and in this ancient family it has ever since continued.

ST.

ST. MICHAELS, 249 miles from London, is accounted the oldest borough in the county, but is no otherwise remarkable. The same may be said of Newport, 214 miles from London.

ST. MAWES, 256 miles from London, has a castle built by Hen. VIII. the largest in the kingdom, to defend the entrance of the harbour. The town is near 2 miles from its parish church of St. Juste, to which it is a hamlet; and consists of one large street fronting the sea. The inhabitants subsist chiefly by fishing.

KELLINGTON, on the river Lamara, 217 miles from London, has one good broad street with a market-house, a neat church, and is not inferior to many of the Cornish boroughs for buildings and wealth. The chief trade is the woollen manufacture.

The most remarkable places in this county, which do not send members to parliament, are,

FALMOUTH, where the river Fall runs into the English channel, 263 miles from London. This is by much the richest and best trading town in the county. The harbour is so commodious, that ships of the greatest burthen come up to its key. It is guarded by the castles of St. Mawes and Pendennis; the latter of which, standing on a peninsula, is large and well fortified, and was built by Hen. VIII. for the defence of Falmouth harbour. There is sufficient shelter in many creeks, for the whole royal navy to ride here safe from any winds. The town is well built, and its trade greatly increased, since the establishment of packets from hence to Portugal and the West Indies; which not only bring over vast quantities of gold for the merchants of London, but the Falmouth merchants carry on a large trade with Portugal in ships of their own.

HELFOED is a harbour where the tin ships often take in their lading for London.

PENZANCE, 10 miles from the Land's End, 286 from London, the farthest town in the West of England, is well built and populous, and has many ships belonging to it; veins of lead, tin, and copper, are said to be seen here even to the utmost extent of low water mark.

ST. BURIEN'S, 292 miles from London, is an independent DEANRY, including 3 parishes, and has a spiritual jurisdiction, from whence there is no appeal but to the King.

MOUNTSBAY is a gulf near Penzance, so named from a high rock in the water, which the seamen call the Cornish Mount, but properly St. Michael's Mount. When the tide is out, the rock joins the main land. St. Michael's Mount has on its top an ancient religious house, built by William de Mortun, E. of Cornwall, nephew to William the Conqueror; which he annexed as a cell to the larger monastery of St. Michael de Periculo Maris in Normandy. About 200 years since, in digging at the bottom for tin, were found spear-heads, axes, &c. wrapped up in linen. At the foot of the mount is a noble and capacious pier or mole, where great numbers of ships may be cleared and refitted.

GODOLPHIN HILLS, 5 miles from Market Jew, give title of Earl to the family of that name; near them is Rialton, the most remarkable spot for producing tin ore in the whole county.

ST. NEOT'S, between Kellington and Bodmin, hath a handsome church, in the windows of which many Jewish traditions are painted; the explication of which is preserved in the public library at Oxford, in a book written in the Cornish tongue.

PADSTOW, 243 miles from London, at the mouth of the river Camel in the Bristol channel, lies convenient for trade to Ireland. From hence to St. Ives is a most pleasant fruitful country. The hills on the left abound with tin, copper, and lead.

WARDBRIDGE, 241 miles from London, has a large stone bridge over the river Camel, built to prevent the dangers horsemen were exposed to from the ferry.

REDRUTH is a considerable market-town between St. Ives and Truro, being the great resort of tanners.

TREMATON CASTLE, (of which the lord warden of the stannaries is steward) stands high, and affords a delightful view of Plymouth harbour, but is now in ruins. This castle was the head of a barony of the ancient E.
and

and D. of Cornwall. About 200 years since, there was dug up in the chancel of the parish church a leaden coffin, containing the skeleton of a very large man. On the lead was an inscription, expressing it to be the body of a Duke, whose heiress was married to a Prince. Mr. Carew, in his survey of Cornwall, supposes it to be Or-garius, whose daughter was married to Edgar.

The ISLANDS OF SGILLY have been always deemed part of Cornwall; they are about 140 small islands, 30 miles from the Land's End, the largest of which, called St. Mary's, is nine miles in circumference: it has a good harbour and a castle, stands high, and is more fruitful than the rest. Some of these islands are overflowed at high water; some of them bear good corn; others abound with rabbits, cranes, herons, &c. they formerly were rich in tin mines, but there are no vestiges remaining. The Phœnicians, Carthaginians, and Romans, frequented these islands. They are situated in the middle, betwixt the Bristol channel on the North, and English channel on the South, that it is no wonder they have proved the destruction of so many ships and lives. Here Sir Cloudesley Shovel met his much lamented fate, Oct. 22, 1707. Great pains were taken to fix the latitude, and assist the mariner to avoid these islands, by Dr. Halley.

ANTIQUITIES in CORNWALL.

1. BISCAN-WOANE, near the Land's End, a parish which gives name to the family of Boscawen. Here are 19 stones fixed in a circle, about 12 feet from one another, supposed to have been a sepulchral monument of the antient Britons.

2. The HURLERS, a great number of oblong rough stones in 3 circles on the downs, not far from Bodmin. The superstitious vulgar will have them to be men-transformed into stones, for playing at ball on a Sunday. Dr. Stukeley thinks them the remains of an ancient temple of the Druids.

3. At TINTAGIL, about 4 miles from Boscastle, is a heap of noble ruins. Tintagil castle was one of the

four houses of the ancient Earls of Cornwall, and stands partly on the top of the hill. There is a very deep cave, hewn out of the rock, said to be the grave of a hermit; also a fine spring of water. Under the island is another cave, through which you may row at full sea. This is said to be the birth-place of the famous K. Arthur, and likewise the place near which he lost his life in a battle between the Britons and Saxons.

4. At CASTLE TRERYN is a famous rock, called a Loganstone, which is placed upon another rock in such a manner, that it may be moved with one finger, though of an enormous weight.

5. PENERICK CASTLE, situated on the East of Mount's Bay, is now in the possession of the noble family of Godolphin.

6. RESTORMEL CASTLE was one of the most ancient and principal seats of the British Dukes of Cornwall, and others, long before the Conquest.

SEATS.

1. MOUNT EDGECUMBE, the fine seat of Lord Edgecumbe, (between Saltash and Mount Edgecumbe in Devonshire, situated on the promontory called the Ram-head) a noted sea mark, was much admired by Charles II. who visited it in his voyage to Plymouth. It stands in the center of a fine park, and has an elegant view of the harbour below it.

2. ANTHONY, in the same neighbourhood, the seat of the Carews. Here is a noble fish-pond, supplied with water from the sea.

3. ARWENACK, near Penryn, the seat of the Killigrews.

4. PORT-ELLIOT, a noble seat of the Elliot family, fronting the river Tiddiford, in its passage through the parish of St. German's to the harbour of Plymouth.--- See St. German's, p. 4.

5. BOCONOCK, 5 miles from Lescard, was the seat of the late Lord Mohun, but now of Thomas Pitt, Esq; elder brother of the Earl of Chatham.

6. GODOLPHIN, a seat of the Earl of Godolphin.

DEVON:

DEVONSHIRE.

THIS county is bounded on the North by the Bristol channel, on the East by Somersetshire, on the South by the English channel, and on the West by Cornwall. The W. side of the county is a moorish, barren soil, bad for breeding sheep, but good for oxen. The soil of the N. side is dry and healthy, with downs of good grazing for sheep, and being dressed with lime, dung, sand, &c. yield tolerable crops of corn; but not in such plenty as the eastern and middle districts. The more barren parts are rendered fruitful by a kind of shell sand; and where that is not to be procured, they den-shire the land, as they call it; that is, skim off the turf, burn it, and strew the ashes on the land.

The S. part is, for its fertility, justly esteemed the garden of Devonshire.

The part called South Ham is famous for cyder; in other parts, mines of tin have been frequently discovered, but they are rarely worked at present.

Veins of loadstone are found here, which a learned naturalist says, generally run E. and W.

Its commodities are corn, cattle, wool, and its chief manufactures kerfies, serges, druggets, long-ells, shalloons, narrow cloths, bone-lace, &c. It is about 69 miles in length, 66 in breadth, and 200 in circumference; contains about 1,920,000 acres, 33 hundreds, 12 boroughs that send each 2 members to parliament; 40 market towns, 394 parishes, and 1733 villages.

The chief rivers are the Tamar, Tave, Lad, Ock, Tame, Touridge, Ex, and Dart. At Cleave, Tavistock, Lamerton, Lifton, &c. are Chalybeat waters.

EXETER, 173 miles from Lond. the see of a Bp. one of the principal cities in the kingdom, is the Augusta of the Romans. Its name is derived from the river Ex, and Cester, a castle; it has six gates besides turrets, and with the suburbs is 2 miles in compass, and is advantageously situated on a rising ground. It had so many churches formerly that it was called Monk-ton; Oliver Crom-

Cromwell exposed 13 to sale by the common cryer; 16 are now within the walls, and 4 without, besides several meeting-houses. The cathedral, called St. Peter's, is a magnificent and curious fabric, vaulted throughout, 390 feet in length and 74 in breadth, and has a ring of 10 bells, reckoned the largest in England. This city hath several charters confirmed by most of our Kings, many of which have honoured it with their royal presence. It had antiently a mint, and in the reign of William III. money was coined here; the pieces are distinguished by an E. under the King's bust. Its bridge over the Ex is of great length, and has houses on both sides towards the ends. It has 4 principal streets (the chief of which is called High-street) all centering in the middle of the city, which is well supplied with water. There is an old castle here called Rougement, supposed to have been built by the West Saxon Kings, whence is a pleasant prospect to the channel 10 miles to the S. It is now much decayed, only a part being kept up for the assizes, &c. The city is remarkable for a large fair at Lammas, at which the goods sold in the woollen manufactory are incredibly numerous.

TOTNESS, 8 miles from Dartmouth, 22 from Exeter, 196 from Lond. stands on the river Dart. Here is a spacious church with a fine tower; a town-hall and a school-house. Its chief trade is the woollen manufacture; but it has more gentlemen than tradesmen of note. There is a fine stone bridge over the river, which abounds with delicate trout and other good fish. It is diverting to see them catch salmon peel here, with a spaniel trained to drive them into a shove net; sometimes a man will take up 20 salmon at a time, from 14 to 20 inches long, for which they ask only 2d. a-piece. The good people of Totness, in their loyalty, once assured his Majesty K. George I. that they were ready to grant him not only a land tax of 4s. in the pound, but if his service required it, to give him the remaining 16s. also.

PLYMOUTH, 216 miles from Lond. at the influx of the river Plym and Tamar into the channel, was antiently no more than a fishing town, but is now the largest in

DEVONSHIRE.

11

in the shire, contains near as many inhabitants as Exeter, and is one of the chief magazines in the kingdom, owing to its port, which is one of the largest and safest in England. It consists of two harbours, capable of containing 1000 sail of ships; defended by several forts, particularly a strong citadel of large extent, containing a grand magazine full of stores, and 5 regular bastions. It is the general rendezvous of ships outward bound, and is very convenient for homeward bound ships to provide themselves with pilots up the channel.

About 2 miles up the mouth of the river Tamar (which is an inlet of the sea, distinguished from Catwater by the name of Hamouze, and commanded by the castle on St. Nicholas Island) is a royal dock for building and repairing ships. Here is a charity-school, 4 hospitals, and a workhouse. Off the entrance of the bay lies the Edystone rock, which is covered at high water, and on which the ingenious Mr. Winstanley built a light-house, that was blown down in that terrible hurricane in Nov. 1703, and himself, with those that were in it, never more heard of. Another was erected by an act of the 5th of Q. Anne, which shared the same fate: but has been lately rebuilt, under the inspection of that ingenious mechanic, Mr. Smeaton.

OKEHAMPTON, on the river Oke, 20 miles from Exeter, 195 from Lond. stands about a mile from its parish church, which is situated near the ruins of a castle on the summit of a hill. It was built by Baldwin de Brion; but in time came by marriage to Christopher Harris, of Haynes, Esq. The chief manufacture is serges.

BARNSTABLE, 7 miles from Biddiford, 191 from Lond. stands on the river Tave; the streets are clean, and the situation very pleasant, among hills, in form of a semi-circle. The houses are generally built with stone, and there is a fine strong bridge over the river, of 16 arches.

PLYMTON, 5 miles from Plymouth, 218 from Lond. lies in a valley above a mile from the river Plym. It is a populous town, but consists chiefly of 2 streets; and has a free-school bountifully endowed. Near the W.

end of the town is the guildhall, standing on stone pillars, where the corn-market is kept.

HONITON, 9 miles from Axminster, 16 from Exeter, 156 from Lond. stands on the river Otter, in the road from London to Exeter. It is situated in the pleasantest part of the county, abounds with corn and pasture; has a good view of the country adjacent, which affords a very beautiful landscape. The town chiefly consists of one long street; is populous and well built, having a small channel of clear water running through it; and is paved with small pebbles. The parish church is half a mile from it, on a hill. This town is much employed in the manufacture of lace, and the broadest sort made in England. Here is a commodious hospital liberally endowed.

TAVISTOCK, 33 miles from Exeter, 206 from Lond. stands low on the banks of the river Tave. It is a large well built town, furnished with plenty of fish, &c. Tavistock abbey was built by Odulph, son of Ogarius Duke of Devonshire, in 961. At the dissolution of monasteries, the scite of this religious structure was granted to John Russel, ancestor of the Duke of Bedford, its present proprietor. A laudable custom still prevails here, that of reading Saxon lectures, in order to preserve the knowledge of our mother-tongue.

ASHBURTON, 7 miles from Chudleigh, 192 from London, is a great thoroughfare, being about half way between Exeter and Plymouth. Its situation is among hills, noted for mines of tin and copper, and has a manufacture of serge. The church is a noble structure in the cathedral stile.

DARTMOUTH, 7 miles from Totness, 30 from Exeter, 204 from London, includes in it what was formerly called 3 towns, Clifton, Dartmouth, and Hardness. It stands on the side of a craggy hill, is about a mile long, the streets very irregular, the houses generally high, so that it seems crowded. The harbour is esteemed good, and 500 sail of ships may ride safe in the bason, which is not only defended by 3 castles, but, upon occasion, the entrance of it may be shut up with a chain. Here is

is a large key and a spacious street before it, where many considerable merchants live, who trade to Portugal, Italy, and the plantations. The mother church is called Townstall, and is situated on a hill $\frac{3}{4}$ quarters of a mile distant from the town. The tower of the church is 69 feet high, and is of good use as a sea-mark. Dartmouth castle is very ancient; for there has been a chapel in it ever since the time of Ed. III. and belongs to Stoke-Fleming church, which is 2 miles off; but the stone tower and spire were built by the inhabitants not many years ago.

BRIXAM, a little fishing town $\frac{3}{4}$ miles to the W. is noted for its spring called Laywell, which ebbs and flows, sometimes 4 times in an hour for 8 hours together, about an inch and one eighth, though now and then it intermits. A full account of this spring is given in the Philosophical Transactions, No. 204.

BEREALSTON, 5 miles from Tavistock, 211 from London, situated on the river Tave; its church is near 2 miles from the town.

TIVERTON, 161 miles from Lond. formerly Twyford-town, from 2 fords then through the river Ex and Loman; but over which there are now stone bridges; it is an ancient town, noted for wealth, and the greatest woollen manufactory in the county, next to Exeter. A distinguished ornament to this town is the free-school, founded by Peter Blondel, who gave 2000l. for purchasing lands to maintain 6 scholars at Oxford and Cambridge, to be elected from this school. This town has suffered remarkably by fire; but those injuries are repaired, and proper methods made use of to secure it for the future. Tiverton-castle was given by Hen. I. to Richard de Riparus, Earl of Devon; but, the male issue failing, it afterward came to the Courtenays, and from them by marriage to the Trelawneys.

BIDDEFORD, an ancient port and corporation 13 miles from Hartland, 30 from Exeter, 199 from Lond. situated on the Towridge, which a little lower joins the Tave, and falls with it into Barnstaple-bay, in the Bristol channel. Over this river there is a very fine bridge built in the 14th century, on 24 stately Gothic arches.

The

The town is clean, well built and populous, and has a street that fronts the river near a mile long, in which are a noble key and custom-house, where ships of burden load and unload in the very bosom of the town; which has a large trade both foreign and domestic.

SOUTH-MOULTON, an ancient corporate town 6 miles from Biddeford, 30 from Exeter, and 170 from Lond. stands on the little river Moule, which falls into the Tave; has a good manufacture of serges, shalloons, and felts.

GREAT-TORRINGTON, an ancient and populous town, 5 miles from Biddeford, and 194 from Lond. is situated on the declivity of a hill, on the banks of the Towridge, and has a good trade to Ireland and other parts. Here are 2 churches, one of which has a library. In the S. part of the town are the remains of an ancient castle.

TORBAY, 12 miles from Dartmouth, remarkable for the landing of WILL. III. then Pr. of Orange, Nov. 5. 1688; is a good road for ships, about 12 miles in circumference.

CROKEN-TORR, a noted hill and rock in the forest of Dartmore, 4 miles from Tavistock, where the tinnors are obliged by their charters to assemble their parliaments or courts of Stannary.

CREDITON, 7 miles from Exeter, and 180 from Lond. was, in the times of the Saxons, a Bp's see, till it was translated to Exeter; but the cathedral is still standing, a magnificent structure 200 feet in length. It was a flourishing town till 1743, when it was almost entirely destroyed by fire.

LIDFORD, 23 miles from Plymouth; on the river Lid, which is remarkable, near this place, for being confined with rocks, by which means it has worked itself so deep a channel in the ground, that the water can hardly be seen from the bridge, or the murmurs of it heard by those who pass over it. The bridge is level with the road, but the surface of the water near 70 feet below it.

About a mile distance from this place is another natural phenomenon, still more remarkable, namely, a cataraet,

taract, or fall of water, of near 100 feet. The water comes from a mill at some distance, and after a declining course arrives at the edge of the precipice, or steep rock, from whence it projects in a very beautiful manner, and strikes upon a part of the cliff standing out some small distance beyond the brink of the precipice, by which it is somewhat divided, and falls from thence in a wider cataract to the bottom, where it has formed a deep basin in the ground.

ANTIQUITIES IN DEVONSHIRE.

FORD-ABBEY, was originally the seat of Adeliza, daughter of Baldwin, of the family of Brionis, and given by her to some Cistercian monks, who founded the Abbey. In time, it came to the Prideaux's, Barts. where it continued till the male issue failed, when, by the marriage of a daughter to Francis Gwin, of Glamorgan, Esq; it passed into that family.

BUCKFASTON-ABBEY, 3 miles from Ashburton, was, according to some, founded by Alfred, before the conquest; but others attribute it to Athelwald, son to William de Pomeroy, in the time of Hen. II.

OTTERY-PRIORY was originally a Benedictine-priory, built in the time of Edw. III. Some time after this, it was given with several other estates belonging to monasteries in this diocese, to John Grandison, Bp. of Exeter, for him to lay out the money arising from the sale, on churches, hospitals, and colleges. Accordingly he converted this monastery into a college of secular canons, consisting of a principal, 8 prebendaries, 13 vicars, a teacher of grammar, a musician and 8 choristers, 2 officary priests, 8 deacons, &c. This college was suppressed in the reign of Hen. V.

BUCKLAND-PRIORY, was founded by Amicia, daughter of Gilbert de Clare, E. of Gloucester; but, in the reign of Q. Eliz. it came into the possession of Sir Francis Drake, and is now in that family.

FRITHELSTOKE-PRIORY, near Torrington, was founded and endowed by Robert de Bello Campo, or Beauchamp.

DAR-

DARLINGTON-TEMPLE, near Totnefs, was, in all probability, a house of knights Templars; but the whole order being dissolved about the fifth year of Edw. II. not many particulars are to be found in their history.

SEATS.

BERRY-POMEROY-CASTLE, 7 miles from Dartmouth, was built by Ralph de Pomeroy, in the Conqueror's reign, and in the time of Edw. VI. was sold to Edward Seymour Duke of Somerset, and is still in that family.

ARMINGTON, 9 miles from Plymouth,—Stovers, Esq;
TAWSTOCK, 6 miles from Biddeford, Sir Bouchier Wrey, Bart.—Said to be the largest and best finished house in the county.

RALEIGH, 9 miles from Biddeford.—Sir John Chichester, Bart.

COPPLESTON, 10 miles from Exeter.—Sir Warwick Bampfylde, Bart.

But the greatest number of seats lie round the skirts of a common, called Hall-Down, a dry heath, about 7 miles long and 3 broad; among which are

UGBROOK, 2 miles from Chudleigh,—the seat of Lord Clifford of Chudleigh.

POWDERHAM CASTLE near TOPSHAM,—Lord Visc. Courtenay. It was built by Isabella de Ripariis, or Rivers, Countess of Albemarle.

HALLDEN, 4 miles from Exeter, one of the best modern houses in the county, was built by the late Sir George Chudleigh, Bart. after the model of the Queen's palace in St. James's park. It is now the seat of the Lady Dowager Chudleigh.

DAWLISH, near EXMOUTH.—Bishop of Exeter.

HAYNTON.—Earl of Orford.

DORSETSHIRE

IS bounded by Somersetshire and Wiltshire, on the North; by Devonshire, and some part of Somersetshire, on

on the West; by Hampshire, on the East; and by the English Channel, on the South. It is about 40 miles in length from E. to W. and about 30 in breadth from N. to S. contains about 959 square miles, 34 hundreds; 22 market towns, 248 parishes, 6 castles, and 772,000 acres.

This is one of the pleasantest counties in England; the prospect of the sea from the hills on one side, and the fruitful plains, tufted woods, and winding rivers on the other, cannot fail of pleasing the eye of every spectator. Several of the successors of Egbert, the Saxon King of England, chose this shire for their residence and burial.

The soil in the vallies is rich in pasture and corn; here graze the black cattle, while the downs and hills feed an incredible number of sheep.

The principal rivers are the Stower, the Frome, the Piddle, the Lyddon, the Dulish, and the Allen, from whence the inhabitants are supplied with all sorts of river fish; while the sea affords them plenty of those species which are inhabitants of the ocean.

DORCHESTER, 120 miles from Lond. is the shire town, and was the most considerable station of the Romans in those parts; they had a camp near it with 5 trenches, inclosing 10 acres, the vestiges of which are still visible at a place called Maiden Castle, about a mile from the town. It is situated on an ascent, on the banks of the river Frome. St. Peter's, Trinity, and All Saints churches, and the Shire-hall, are the principal buildings in the town. The Ikenild street of the Romans is plainly traced here, and the foundations of the old Roman wall appear quite round the town, except toward the East, where the ditch is filled up, and a street built upon it; yet the place is still called The Walls. The Romans had an amphitheatre in the neighbourhood, now called Maumbury, the terrace on the top of which is a noted place for the inhabitants to walk on, having an elegant prospect of the town and country round it.

LYME REGIS, or KING'S LYME, 22 miles from Dorchester, and 143 from London, is a sea-port of good trade, and remarkable for a pier, called the Cobb, situated

ated about a quarter of a mile from the town, and which forms a harbour, that perhaps has not its equal in Europe. It is a massy building of 2 lofty thick stone walls, raised in the sea at a good distance from the shore; these walls, which are broad enough for carriages to pass, and even warehouses to be erected on them, break the violence of the waves, and defend the ships which lie in the basin. The Duke of Monmouth landed here when he came against his uncle James II. but he lost his head for it on Tower-hill, and many of his followers were condemned to death by the cruel judge Jefferies.

BRIDPORT, 8 miles from Lyme, and 135 from Lond. was formerly a place of good trade; but the sea has almost choked up the harbour with sand.

WEYMOUTH, 120 miles from Lond. is situated on the river Wey, which divides it from Melcombe-Regis; it had formerly a good trade, but greatly decayed at present.

SANDFORD, or SANDS-FOOT CASTLE was built for the defence of the coast, and of the harbour of Weymouth.

MELCOMBE REGIS is separated from Weymouth by the river Wey, over which is a stone bridge. It is united to Weymouth, and both form one corporation; and jointly send 4 members to parliament.

WAREHAM, 114 miles from Lond. had formerly a mint and a castle. It was a Roman town, and once very large, having no less than 17 churches, though they are now reduced to 3; and those all supplied by one minister. The chief ornament of the town is the tower of St. Mary's church.

CORFE CASTLE, 6 miles from Wareham, and 120 from London, stands in the middle of the isle of Purbeck, and has its name from a castle supposed to have been built by King Edgar, who kept his court here. Soon after the death of that monarch, his second wife Alfrith rendered it remarkable by the murder of King Edward, surnamed the Martyr, son to King Edgar, by a former wife, whom she caused to be stabbed as he called to see her. Some years after, however, she made the usual atone-

Alfrith

ment of those times, by founding religious houses, and taking herself a religious habit. Near the castle is a large and lofty parish church, which is a royal peculiar, not liable to any episcopal visitation or jurisdiction. The castle was demolished by the parliament's forces in the time of the civil wars; but the ruins still retain great marks of its strength and grandeur, and their situation on an eminence, renders them visible at a considerable distance.

POOL, 7 miles from Wareham, and 105 from Lond. is a place of great trade, and one of the most considerable ports in the West of England.

SHAFTSBURY, or SHAPTON, 12 miles from Blandford and 102 from London, is situated on a hill on the grand post road to Exeter. It is said to have been built by K. Alfred in 880, and had, in the Saxon times, a famous monastery and 10 churches, but they are at present reduced to four.

BLANDFORD, 104 miles from Lond. is an ancient and flourishing town. It was almost entirely consumed by fire in 1731, but was soon after rebuilt in a very elegant manner.

WIMBURN, 16 miles from Dorchester, and 104 from Lond. was one of the Roman stations; it had formerly a monastery, in which K. Ethelred, brother to K. Alfred, was buried; but it was afterward changed into a collegiate church and rebuilt. This choir is the only one in the county; the church is a noble edifice, about 180 feet in length, built in the form of a cathedral, with a fine tower in the middle, and another at the West end.

SHERBORNE, 14 miles from Shaftsbury, and 117 from Lond. is an ancient, large, and much frequented town, it being both the coach and post road from Lond. to Exeter: it was once the retiring place of William the Conqueror. An episcopal chair was fixed here in 705, by Ina, K. of the W. Saxons, in which there sat successively 25 bishops; but in the 11th century, it was removed to Sarum, soon after which, the cathedral was converted into an abbey. This church is very magnificent both within and without; being the best in the county,

county, and so much valued by the townsmen at the reformation, that, as is said, they bought it, and pulled down 3 churches and 4 chapels to preserve it. At the entrance from the porch, lie interred Ethelbald and Ethelbert, 2 of our Saxon K. about 200 years before the conquest; and in one of its isles is a grand monument of John Digby, Earl of Bristol, who died in 1698. In the tower are 6 bells, so large, that they require near 20 men to ring them. Sherborne-castle was built by Roger, the third Bishop of Salisbury, about the year 1107.

PORTLAND, over against Weymouth, was formerly an island, and still retains that name, though now only a peninsula. It is scarcely 7 miles in circumference, and but thinly inhabited. From the E. end of it, the sea has thrown up a prodigious ridge of beach, called Chesil-Bank, not above half a stone's cast from the shore. It runs W. parallel with the shore near 7 miles, quite to Abbotsbury, leaving an inlet of water in some places near a mile and a half over; in the broadest part of which lake is a swannery, containing 7 or 8000 swans. The land here is high, and by means of dangerous rocks, is accessible only on the N. side, where it is defended by a strong castle, built by Hen. VIII. and by another since erected on the opposite shore called Sandsfoot castle. The inland parts are famous for quarries of the finest free stone, and most durable, with which St. Paul's church, Westminster-bridge, &c. were erected.

PURBECK, (like Portland) is improperly called an island, here is found the best tobacco pipe clay in England.

ANTIQUITIES in DORSETSHIRE.

MIDDLETON-ABBEY, was built by K. Athelstan, to atone for the death of his younger brother; whom, being falsely accused to him, he ordered to be put to sea in a boat without oars or sails, and with one page only, by which means he perished. At the dissolution of monasteries, this abbey was granted to the family of Tregonwall, who resided here 160 years; and in process of time came into possession of Sir J. Banks.

ABBOTS.

ABBOTSBURY-ABBEY, was founded by Orcus, or Orkery, and his wife Tola, a Norman lady, about the year 1026.

BRINDON-ABBEY, 6 miles from Wareham, was founded and endowed by Roger de Newburg, and his wife Maud. K. Hen. III. and Q. Eleanor, undertook the patronage of it.

SEATS.

EASTBURY, the seat of the late Lord Melcombe, 6 miles from Shaftsbury, in the parish of Gunfield. This is one of the largest and most magnificent houses in Engl. its gardens and park are 8 miles in circumference.

HOOK-CASTLE, 9 miles from Dorchester---Duke of Bolton's.

KINSTON-HALL, not far from Wimburn-minister.---Banks, Esq.

WIMBORN St. GILES, 10 miles from Shaftsbury.---Earl of Shaftsbury.

BREINSTON, about a mile from Blandford.---Henry Portman's, Esq.

SHERBORNE-CASTLE, near the town of the same name.---Lord Digby's.

LULWORTH-CASTLE, near Dorchester.---Mr. Will's. It was built in the reign of K. James I. by J Howard, E. of Suffolk, after the design of Inigo Jones.

CRANBOURN-HOUSE, 11 miles from Shaftsbury.---Earl of Salisbury.

BUCKLAND, 6 miles from Dorchester.---Earl Powlet's.

PIDDLETON, 4 miles from Dorchester.---Earl of Oxford's.

CHIDIOCK-CASTLE, near Budport, was formerly the seat and lordship of a family of the same name, but in process of time came into the family of Arundell, of Lanherne in Cornwall.

SOMERSETSHIRE

IS bounded on the W. by Devonshire; on the S. by Dorsetshire; on the N. by the Severn sea and part of Gloucestershire, and on the E. by Wiltshire. It is more celebrated for mineral waters than any county in England, and is one of the richest and largest, being about 60 miles in length from W. to E. and 50 in breadth from N. to S. contains, according to Templeman, 1335 square miles, three cities, 42 hundreds, 385 parishes, 30 market towns, and about 1700 villages.

The soil is rich and various; it abounds with grain of all kinds; its pastures feed great numbers of black cattle, and its hills large flocks of sheep.

The county is almost every where well watered; its most noted rivers are the Avon, Parret, Froome, Ax, Torr, Tone, Ivill, and Brew.

BRISTOL, 12 miles from Bath, and 117 from London, is the second city in the British dominions, for trade, wealth, and number of inhabitants. Though it lay in two counties, before it was made a county of itself, which was in the reign of Edward III. it was by the parliament rolls reckoned in Somersetshire. The cathedral was formerly the collegiate church of St. Augustin's monastery, which, when dissolved by Henry VIII. and erected into the see of a bishop, he applied its revenues to the maintenance of a bishop, dean, prebendaries, &c.

There are in this city 18 churches: the chief is St. Mary Redcliff's, without the walls, built in the reign of Henry VI. by William Cannings; alderman of this city. This is a magnificent structure in the Gothic taste; the workmanship so exquisite, the roof so artificially vaulted with stone, and the tower so high, that we may say with Camden, it is the finest parish church in the kingdom. As it stands on the brow of a hill, there's a stately ascent to it by stone steps: in it are two monuments in honour of the founder; one in the habit of a magistrate, and denoting that he was five times mayor of the city; and the other, cut in marble, is in priest's

priest's robes; for in his latter days he took orders. Its altar-piece is finely painted, in part by the excellent pencil of Sir James Thornhill. In the year 1757, the altar was decorated with a capital picture, representing the resurrection of Jesus, by the inimitable Hogarth.

2. Temple church, in Temple-street, is a large edifice, worth visiting.

3. St. Stephen's, is worthy observation, for the curious workmanship of its stately tower.

4. All Saints church, has a steeple in imitation of Bow church in Lond. and in compliment to Mr. Colston, the great benefactor to this city, the dolphin, which is his arms, is placed on it, as the dragon is on Bow steeple.

5. St. Nicholas church, lately rebuilt, is a most elegant structure, and though the body of the church is large, it has not a single pillar to support the roof, which is quite flat. The altar-piece is admirably painted.

Here is a stately stone bridge of 3 arches over the river Avon, ornamented with elegant ballustrades. Both the footways over it are secured from the intrusions of animals, &c. by a double row of chains, which run through cast iron pillars from end to end. The noble appearance of the new buildings, which terminate all the streets leading to the bridge, have a most surprising effect; scarce any thing can excel it, the houses being amazingly lofty, and finished in a high modern stile.

The place which formerly was called the Marsh, and had rope-walks on all sides of it, is now Queen's-square. It is larger than any square in London, except that of Lincoln's-inn. On the North side of it is the custom-house, and in the middle, walks of trees, which lead to the centre, where is a curious equestrian statue of King William III. cast in copper, standing on a base and pediment of Portland stone.

There are two new market-houses lately erected, each forming a large square, exceeding neat and well stocked with various commodities; so that they have now 3 excellent markets for butchers, poulterers, fruiterers, &c. &c. besides

besides their fish market, which is entirely distinct from the others.

The walls of this city were raised in the reign of Will. Rufus, yet part of them still remain, called the Port-wall.

There were formerly 14 gates here, of which only three now remain, viz. Temple-gate, St. John's-gate, and Newgate, the prison for debtors and malefactors.

This city, which with the suburbs lies compact, being almost as broad as long, is, according to a late survey, about 6 miles in circumference on the Gloucester side, and 3 miles on the Somerset side; which in the whole make 9 miles in circumference. The houses are close and crowded, especially toward the bridge, and the heart of the city, where many of them are five or six stories high. The ascent to St. Michael's hill is so steep, that upwards of 100 steps are laid at proper places.

Of its hospitals the chief are, 1st, Queen Elizabeth's, which, before the dissolution of the abbey, was a collegiate church, called Gaunt's, from its founder, Sir Henry Gaunt, who entered himself a recluse in it. It was afterward converted into an hospital by T. Carre, a wealthy citizen, who is supposed to have lived in that reign, and to have named it after the queen. In 1706, it was rebuilt by contribution, and is large enough for 100 boys; who are taught, reading, writing, arithmetic, navigation, &c. and when qualified to go out, either by age or education, have liberty to chuse a master, either for land or sea service, and 8l. 8s. given to put them apprentice.

2. The hospital founded by Edward Colston, Esq; on St. Austin's back, where 100 boys are maintained for seven years, and taught and apprenticed as those are at Queen Elizabeth's; for maintaining these boys the master is allowed 1000l. a year and lands were purchased to perpetuate the income. The premium given with each boy, when bound apprentice, is 10l.

3. Another founded by Mr. Colston on St. Michael's hill in 1691, the front and sides whereof are faced with free stone. It contains 24 apartments, for 12 poor men and

and 12 poor women, who have an allowance of 3s. a week each, and 24 sacks of coals a year among them; but the elder brother has 6s. a week. The Governor has an apartment and garden, and handsome allowance: here is also a neat chapel; the minister has 10l. per annum for reading prayers every day, except when they are read at St. Michael's church, at which every pensioner is to attend.

4. Another adjoining to Merchant's-hall, in King-street, founded partly by Edward Colston, Esq; and partly by the merchants, for 18 men on account of the merchants, and 12 men and women on account of Mr. Colston.

5. A large school and dwelling-house in Temple-street, built and maintained by Mr. Colston, where 40 boys are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, and clothed in short grey coats, with caps and bands.

6. Foster's hospital, on St. Michael's-hill, for 6 men and 8 women, whose allowance is 2s. per week.

7. St. Nicholas alms-house in King-street, founded by Mr. Daniel Adams, for 13 women and 3 men, with the weekly allowance of 1s. 10d. each.

8. An hospital in Peter-street, built by Alderman Aldworth, for 8 widows, but no allowance.

9. Merchant-Taylors' hospital, in Merchant-street, where 2 men and 9 women have each 2s. 6d. per week, besides a dinner and 1s. each once a quarter.

10. St. John's hospital in the old market, where 12 women are allowed 2s. a week each, besides a sack of coals and 1s. at Christmas.

11. Another hospital for 12 men and 12 women, who are allowed 2s. 4d. per week, and washing.

12. Alderman Stephens's hospital for 12 women, whose only allowance is 1s. 6d. per week.

13. Another on Redcliff-hill, for 14 men and women, founded by Sir William Penn.

14. An hospital or workhouse, built by the people called Quakers, near the Narrow-weir.

15. Dr. White's hospital in Temple-street, for 9 men and 3 women, at an allowance of 2s. 6d. a week each, and new gowns once in three years.

16. An hospital opened on St. Peter's day, 1738, at the Mint, for sick, lame, distressed poor, and orphans of this city, called St. Peter's hospital.

17. A noble infirmary in Magdalen-lane, St. James's, for sick, diseased, and wounded persons of all denominations, the charity being universal, and supported by voluntary contributions of many noble personages, as well as citizens and merchants.

The Guildhall for the sessions, assizes, &c. is in Broad-street, and adjoining to it is a spacious room, called St. George's chapel, where the mayor and sheriff are annually chosen. In the front of the Guildhall is a statue of Ch. II. At the upper end of Corn-street is a large council-house, where the mayor and aldermen meet to administer justice; below it is the

Tholsay, where are short pillars with broad brass plates on them, erected by the merchants, for the benefit of writing, and counting money. They used to meet here, as the London merchants do on their Exchange; but were so exposed to the weather and the annoyance of carriages, that in 1733 the citizens obtained an act of parliament, and have built a regular Exchange, with 4 entrances into it, and rooms for brokers, insurers, &c. over it. The first stone was laid in 1749, and this structure, which is all of free stone, with two spacious apartments at the entrance, one for a tavern, the other for a coffee-house, is the compleatest of the kind in Europe.

The key here, which is upon the river Froome, is above half a mile in length, from its bridge to its conflux with the Avon, and the most commodious in England for shipping and landing of goods, having several cranes on it for this purpose, which are not to be equalled for the extraordinary dispatch with which they clear ships. There is a handsome sun dial on this key, and a draw-bridge over the river Froome, which preserves the communication between the parts of the city on both sides of that river, and is drawn up gratis by officers paid by the city.

Beside this, there has lately been another key formed along the banks of the Avon, with proper walls, docks for

S O M E R S E T S H I R E. 27

for vessels to lie in, and cranes to unload them in the same manner as at the former key. Alongside this key, and in the docks, 2 or 300 vessels may safely lie, fearless of any accident. The expence the merchants have already been at in clearing this part of the Avon, building key-walls, &c. does not amount to less than 200,000l.

There is a corn-market house, built of free stone, in Wine-street, which is of late but little used, most of the business in that way being transacted on what is called the Welch Back, where most of the coasters and corn vessels unload, and where is likewise a regular market.

The Hot-wells, about a mile below the Old Town, were by a late act of parliament incorporated with the city; taking the whole extent, therefore, we may say, Bristol is by far the largest city in England, the length from Lawrence-hill to the Wells, being nearly 4 miles, and taking it transversely, from Bedminster turnpike to Stokes Croft turnpike, not much less; so that the whole circumference of the city and suburbs, may be said to be about 12 miles.

The Hot-well waters are a certain specific for the dysentery, spitting of blood, diabetes, &c. and are excellent in inflammatory and scorbutic cases, being impregnated by the lime-stone quarries, through which they run, with a soft alcalous quality. The season for drinking the waters is from March to September, and the place is much frequented by nobility and gentry, who spend their Summer here, and for whose entertainment there are two large Assembly-rooms erected contiguous to the Wells, where are every day concerts, public breakfasts, &c. for the whole season. The Wells are now very populous, most of the houses being large and elegant, and taken up by people of fashion. These waters are not only drank on the spot at the pump-room, but every morning cried in the streets like milk, and are observed to retain their virtue longer than other medicinal waters. Below the Wells are tremendous rocks, extending a vast way on each side the river Avon, where is found in great abundance that beautiful Fossil, called Bristol stone.

The new Theatre in King-street, Queen-square, for which a licence has been lately obtained by act of parliament, is a noble pile of building, and by judges deemed one of the compleatest in Europe.

BATH, 13 miles from Bristol, 107 from London, was famous in the time of the Romans for its medicinal waters, called by Ptolemy THE HOT WATERS; by Antoninus, the Waters of the Sun; by the Britons, Caer Baden, the City of Bath; and by the Saxons, Akmanchester, or the City of Valetudinarians. The names of its several baths are, the King's-bath, the Queen's-bath, the Cross-bath, and the Hot-bath. In the King's-bath is a statue of Bladud, eighth King of the Britons, with an inscription under it, importing that he discovered the use of these baths 863 years before Christ; that is, 2640 years to the present time. That this place was of old a resort of cripples and diseased persons, appears from the crutches hung up at the several baths, as the thank-offerings of those who came hither lame, and went away cured; but the City of Bath is now more frequented by the sound for their pleasure, than by the sick for their health. At the King's-bath is a neat pump-room, to which the water is conveyed almost boiling hot. It is admirably grateful to the stomach, has a fine sulphureous chalybeat taste like that of the German Spa, or Pyrmont, and strengthens the bowels, by restoring the lost tone, and renewing the vital heat. In short, many are the diseases which find a remedy from it when properly applied, and used with a light regimen, due exercise, and good hours; for if high meats and strong liquors are indulged, they will create inflammatory disorders. The springs were doubtless separated from the common springs by the Romans, and fenced in with a durable wall. The company assemble in this pump-room every morning between the hours of eight and ten to drink the waters; a band of music always attending to entertain them. A fine marble statue of the late Richard Nash, Esq; executed at the expence of the corporation, perpetuates the memory of a man, under whose government the city of Bath rose to its present degree of splendor.

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The Queen's-bath, which has no spring of its own, is supplied with water from the King's-bath, and is consequently more temperate than the first. The time these two baths take in filling is about 10 hours.

The Cross-bath, whose waters lie near the level of the street, is so called from a handsome monument erected in the middle of it by an Earl of Melfort, as a memorial of James the Second's Queen bathing in it. The descent of the Holy Ghost attended by angels, the eucharist, the pillar, and all the ornaments, are of fine marble. The monument is still entire, except that some of the inscriptions have been erased. The guides of this bath have observed, that when the wind blows strong from the W. they feel a cold air arising from beneath, as they stand near the springs; but if the wind be at E. and the morning close, with a gentle rain, it is so hot as scarce to be endured; whereas the King's-bath and Hot-bath are both colder at that time than usual. In the other winds, be the weather what it will, this bath is temperate. It is observed to fill in 15 or 16 hours all the year round, and 4 hours bathing here is more tolerable than one and a half in the Hot-bath or King's-bath, where the hot spring is sometimes scarce sufferable. In this Cross-bath and no other, the guides have observed a certain black fly in the hot weather winged like a lady cow, but somewhat bigger, which they say shoots into the water, and sometimes bites. It lives under the water, and is supposed to come up with the springs.

The Hot-bath, which is situated near the last-mentioned, and is so called from its being once deemed to be the hottest of all, is nevertheless, from experiments, found to be nearly of the same degree of heat with the King's-bath. The spring from which the Cross-bath is supplied, produces 140 tuns in 24 hours.

The two bathing seasons here are Spring and Autumn; the Spring begins with April, and ends with June; the Autumn with September, and lasts till December: and some who drink the water purely for their health, remain here all the Winter. In the Spring season it is much frequented for the sake of health, and in
the

the Fall for pleasure; when at least two thirds of the gay world drink the waters as a pretence to mix with the company at the pump-room, and to give a colour for resorting to an infirmary as to a place of dissipation and public enjoyment.

This city lies in a delightful valley surrounded with an amphitheatrical circle of hills; the heat of the waters and their milky detergent quality are ascribed to a mixture and fermentation of two different certain sources, distilling from Claverton and Landsdown; two hills, of which the former has springs that are sulphurous or bituminous, mixed with nitre, and the latter such as are tinged with iron ore: beside, the adjacent country abounds with mines of coal, which all naturalists agree are sulphurous and bituminous. These two mountains tinged with rain water falling from its proper height, and meeting in some caverns in the valley, there fermenting, produces that hot milky soft liquid called Bath water.

The city has a bridge over the Avon, which river is lately, by means of six locks, made navigable to Bristol. The city walls, though slight, are almost entire, and supposed to have been the work of the Romans; the upper part seems to have been repaired with the ruins of the Roman buildings.

The Guildhall was formerly situated in the center of the High-street; but the corporation finding it too small and its situation inconvenient, came to a resolution to erect a new one; the first stone of which was laid in 1768, but a total stop put to the building till the year 1775, when new designs were made and carried into execution. The elevation is in the modern composite stile. In the Hall is preserved the head of Minerva, a piece of antiquity that was dug up in Stall-street, in 1725, for which the Society of Antiquarians offered the corporation a considerable sum.

The City of Bath is said to have been built by King Alfred, A. D. 900, and was surrounded by a wall, on the outside of which, in the memory of many now living, there was scarcely a house standing.

Bath

Bath has amazingly encreased of late years in the extent and elegance of its buildings. The first improvement was the erection of Queen's-square, began in 1729, in the center of which is a garden, and an obelisk 70 feet high, in honour of his late Royal Highness Frederick Prince of Wales. When the square was finished, Mr. Wood, (an eminent architect, to whose abilities and enterprizing genius, Bath stands indebted for an elegance in its buildings superior to any place in England) planned several streets contiguous to it; and in 1739, began the North and South parades, Pierrepont-street, Duke-street, and others. In 1754, he planned the Circus, a beautiful circular pile of building, uniformly consisting of the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders. Gay-street, Brook-street, Bennet-street, and the Crescent, ought not to be here omitted. The last mentioned is a most magnificent and much admired pile of building, in the elliptical form, consisting of one order only of Ionic pillars supporting the upper cornice, and commanding a prospect beyond all description.

To the East of the Circus are the New Assembly Rooms. Seventy persons subscribed to the building and furnishing these superb rooms, which cost more than 20,000*l*. They were began in 1769, and completed and opened in 1771.

The Old Assembly Rooms are on the walks leading from the Grove to the Parades. In the ball-room is a fine portrait of the late Master of the Ceremonies, Mr. Nash.

On the resignation of Mr. Wade, it was determined to elect two Masters of the Ceremonies, one for each set of rooms; these were Mr. Dawson for the new rooms, and Mr. Brereton for the old ones.

The Bath Theatre is established by royal patent, granted to John Palmer, Esq; and is allowed for its size to be as complete as any in England.

The stone of which the houses are built is for the most part dug out of the quarries upon Claverton Down, and brought from thence down a long steep hill, by a curious machine, the invention of the late Ralph Allen, Esq; by which means it is bought at a trifling expence. These machines, and the manner of conveying stones

from the quarry to the river, are well worth the observation of the curious.

Orange-grove, near the abbey, is so called in compliment to the late Prince of Orange; a monumental stone is here erected with an inscription, importing that the health of the Prince was restored by drinking these waters.

St. Peter's cathedral, which was the abbey church, is supposed to be built on the spot where stood the Roman temple of Minerva, the patroness of baths; and is a lofty venerable pile.

WELLS, 16 miles from Bath, 19 from Bristol, 120 from London, is a small neat city, at the bottom of Mendip hills, and has its name from the wells or springs that are found in all parts of it. The buildings are remarkably good. The front of the cathedral is greatly admired by strangers for its excellent imagery and carved work; though the taste is a little too gothic to please the critics. The cloysters adjoining to it are very large and spacious. The chapter-house is a rotund, supported by a pillar in the center; and the window in the front curiously painted. The vicars dwellings in the close are very neat, but their hall is turned into a music room, where are frequent concerts; there is a charity school here for 20 boys and 20 girls: the eldest vicar teaches the boys to sing. The town hall stands over bishop Bubwith's hospital, which maintains 30 poor men and women. There is another founded by bishop Still for women. Mr. Bricks built an alms-house for 4 poor men; Mr. Llewelin another for women. Archibald Harper, a stocking man, built another hospital here, and endowed it with 500l. to maintain 4 poor wool-combers. Mr. Andrews, a mercer, gave an alms-house for 4 poor women.

The bishop's palace is one of the handsomest in the kingdom. On the S. side it looks like a castle, being fortified with walls and a moat; and near it is St. Andrew's well, one of the finest springs in England. The deanery is also a fine house, and here are also good dwellings for the prebendaries. Bone lace is made here, but the poor are mostly employed in knitting. St. Cuthbert's parish is 7 miles long and 4 broad, and contains several

several hamlets. In the middle of the town was the old market-place, called the Cross, and near it another market-house lately built, which is also the town-house, where the corporation meet, and the judges hold the assizes.

BRIDGEWATER, 137 miles from London, is one of the most considerable towns in the shire, as a port, a parliament borough, and a thoroughfare. The castle was built by W. de Briwere, who also founded St. John's hospital. The key called the haven was made first by him, after which he began building the stone bridge over the Parret, which was finished by Thomas Trivet, a Cornish man. When the Duke of Monmouth came here 1685, he resided at the castle, was here proclaimed King, and touched for the evil with much the same effect as any of his ancestors. The river Parret is navigable to the Thone, and from thence to Taunton. The tide runs strong 10 miles above Bridgewater. On a spring, the head of the tide, or the Boar, comes in foaming and roaring so furiously, that it would do mischief, if the sailors and boatmen, who hear it a great way off, were not on their guard. The reason of this boar is ascribed to the heightning and shoaling of the river. The town stands 12 miles from the star point, where the river discharges itself into the Bristol channel, and a spring-tide rises 22 feet at the key. This river abounds with salmon, jack, eels and elvers. Elvers are a sort of small eel, which at certain times of the year, swim upon the surface of the water in great numbers. These they skim up in small nets, and by a peculiar way of dressing, make into little cakes, and so send them up; a dish seldom to be met with out of this county. Ships of 200 tons may come up to the key; and this convenience for navigation, causes a good coast trade to Bristol, and all down the Severn, to Wales for coals, and to Cornwall for slates: the receipt of the customs amount to 3000l. a year, clear of salaries, incidents, &c. Its foreign trade is chiefly with Portugal and Newfoundland, and sometimes up the Streights. Here is a good market, which furnishes corn for exportation: it has been famous for

woollen manufactory, but now chiefly for leather. The freemen are free of all the ports of England except London, and of Ireland, except Dublin. The town stands on a small ascent, for the most part on a gravelly soil. There is a spacious town hall and high cross, and over it a cistern, to which water is conveyed from a brook by an engine fixed in that formerly called the Queen's mill; and from this cistern it is carried into most of the streets. The church is large, and its spire the third loftiest in England. Here is also a large free school built of stone, and under it are lodgings for the poor of the parish; besides which, this town is famous for the birth of Admiral Blake. The country betwixt this place and the sea, and northward on the coast lies low, and is employed for pasture. The road called the lower way from hence to Bristol is not always passable, being subject to dangerous inundations.

MINEHEAD, 23 miles from Bridgewater, 161 from London, is an ancient borough town on the Bristol channel near Dunster castle, much frequented by passengers to and from Ireland. Here have been several useful, tho' expensive improvements made in the key, pier, and breach, which are of very great emolument to the inhabitants. The town is well built, and situate on the declivity of a hill. The pier is capable of receiving ships of the largest burthen.

TAUNTON, 140 miles from London, on the river Thone, is one of the largest boroughs in England, delightfully situated, and very populous; a place of great note for manufactories of serges, duroys, sagathees, shalloons, &c. The river Thone is made navigable hither, and there is a bridge over it of six arches. The streets are spacious, and kept clean. St. Mary Magdalen's church is a spacious edifice, with a lofty tower and stately pinacles, adorned with carved work. Grey's hospital is a large brick building, for the support of six men and ten women at 2s. a week; and here is also a well endowed grammar school. The country for about 30 miles is called the vale of Taunton, and commonly called Taunton-Dean, a very pleasant fruitful country. Where
the

the Parret mixes with the Thone, a little island is formed called Athelney, said to be the hiding place of the Saxon king Alfred, when the Danes over-run the country.

It is a privilege in this place, that every pot-walloper, that is, he who dresses his own victuals, is entitled to vote for members of parliament. In consequence the inmates and lodgers, some time before an election, make fires in the streets, at which they dress victuals publickly, lest their votes should be called in question.

ILCHESTER or IVELCHESTER, 123 miles from London, is situated on the river Ivil, over which is a bridge. It is noted for being the birth-place of Friar Bacon; and for the antiquity of the place, where Roman coins are sometimes dug up.

MILBOURN PORT, 2 miles from Sherborne, 115 from London, is so very ancient a borough, as to be mentioned in Domesday book, but has nothing remarkable.

GLASTONBURY, 5 miles from Wells, 125 from Lond. is in a spot almost encompassed with rivers. The soil is fertile, and adapted to the growth of apples. The abbey is said to have been founded about 30 years after the death of Christ, by Joseph of Arimathea, who, as well as his immediate successors, lived in a hut made of earth, and covered with boughs, where he was supposed to have stuck his staff in the ground, which taking root, produced the once famous hawthorn tree, which was said to blossom on Christmas day. That Joseph of Arimathea was ever in Britain is doubtful, and that the hawthorn which was cut down in the civil wars, budded only on a Christmas day, is an imposition. But however that be, there are authentic accounts of a settlement of christian monks at this place, in the beginning of the fifth century. The church is said to have been built by the W. Saxon king Ina, who endowed it with immense revenue. The Torr, so called from the tower that stands on it, is a hill that rises like a pyramid to a great height, and is a land-mark to seamen, it being higher ground than any within 10 miles of the place, and the ascent extremely difficult. The abbey was one
of

of the richest and most magnificent in the world, as is evident from its ruins: from its antiquity it has been called *the mother of all saints*: many of the Saxon kings were interred in it. The walls that still remain are overgrown with ivy, and the aspect of the whole is venerable. The kitchen belonging to the abbey is still entire; built with stone, without the addition of any thing combustible. The Blood or Chalice-well is situated on the declivity of a hill, and has two sources. Something higher on the side of the same hill is another spring, equal in its mineral properties to the waters of the Chalice-well; and farther to the southward arises another stream, the water of which, from its uncommon softness, seems to be impregnated with lime or chalk stone. These, all joining at the foot of the hill, form one stream, and are the waters drank at this place.

WELLINGTON, on the river Thone, 147 miles from Lond. has a large church in the road from Taunton.

DULVERTON, 164 miles from Lond. on the road to Truro, on a hilly moor, with a stone bridge over a branch of the river Ex, is a pretty town, and in the neighbourhood are mines of lead.

LANGPORT, 128 miles from Lond. a well frequented town on the Parret, between Bridgewater and Crewkerne.

DUNSTER, 2 miles from Minehead, 158 from Lond. is an ancient town on the shore of the Severn-sea, encompassed on all sides, except towards the sea, with hills. The castle has two wings and three towers, but the fortifications are in a ruinous condition. It was given, by William the Conqueror, to William de Mohun; but, in process of time, was sold to the Lady Elizabeth Luttrell, daughter of Hugh Courtney Earl of Devonshire, and widow of Sir Andrew Luttrell, Kt. in whose family it still continues.

WATCHET, 153 miles from Lond. is an ancient seaport on the same coast, having a pier built by Sir William Windham. The inhabitants extract alkaline salt from the ashes of sea weed, and sell it to the glass manufacturers at Bristol.

YEovil,

YEŒVIL, 123 miles from Lond. sometimes called Ivil from a river of that name, a branch of the Parret betwixt Crewkern and Sherborn. It is a thoroughfare on the W. post road to the Land's End; but the streets narrow, and for the most part mean.

At CAMALET and CHESTERTON, near Somerton, are the remains of a Roman camp, and abundance of coins and other antiquities are often dug up here.

SOMERTON stands on a branch of the river Parret, 123 miles from Lond. between Wells and Crewkern. This town gave name to the county; and is very healthy, though the moors are so very near it. The chief support of it are the cattle, which are fed on a moor about a mile off, where are 20,000 acres of good grazing land, on which all the inhabitants have a right of commoning.

AXBRIDGE, 135 miles from Lond. a borough under Mendip Hills, takes its name from the river Axe, about 7 miles from its mouth. The church is large, with two antique statues on the tower.

CHEDDAR is famed for the finest cheese in the world, except the Parmesan, and is 23 miles in compass, abounding with pasture. It is common here for three or four dairies to join their milk, and to make what is called a *Cheddar Cheese*. There are also such great plantations of apples in this parish, that 3000 hogsheds of cyder have been made in one season.

Above this town, in the road to Bristol, there is a chain of a mile long, between a cliff and a tremendous rock, 2 or 300 feet high, with hollows equally awful and surprising. Out of these hills a stream springs so rapid, that it soon forms a river, which drives 12 mills within a mile of its head, and, after many meanders, falls into the river Axe.

WRINTON, a pretty town among the Mendip Hills, which had the honour to give birth to that great philosopher Mr. John Locke; is 6 miles from Axbridge. Lapis Calaminaris is dug and prepared near this town.

ILMINSTER, 7 miles from Taunton, 137 from London, is a parish 5 miles in length, very considerable for the woollen manufacture.

CHARD,

CHARD, 4 miles from Ilminster, is a post town, situated on a descent, with several streams running through it, which keep it clean; it consists of four streets, which terminate near the market place. The woollen manufacture is the principal support of the inhabitants.

KEYNSHAM, 113 miles from London, is a thoroughfare in the lower road between Bath and Bristol. It has a fine large church, a stone bridge of 15 arches over the Avon into Gloucestershire, and another bridge over the river Chu or Chew. In the neighbourhood is a quarry, where stones are frequently found of a serpentine form, but generally without the representation of the head.

BRISLINGTON, betwixt Keynsham and Bristol, has mines of coal, like those of Newcastle, covered with a hard crust, called Wark, resembling in shape a fern leaf; it will split like black slate, but is much more brittle.

BRUTON, 109 miles from Lond. in the road to Bridgewater, stands on the river Brew, over which it has a stone bridge; it has a fine church, a good free school, a stately alms-house, and drives a great trade in serge and stockings: in the church are many remarkable tombs.

CASTLE CAREY, 3 miles from Bruton, is a small town, of no other note than for its mineral waters, which, according to Guidot, are much like those of Epsom.

SHEPTON-MALLET, 2 miles from Wells, is a large town, has about 1200 houses, and is the residence of many considerable clothiers. The streets are narrow, steep, very irregular and uneven; but well-watered with rivulets, convenient for the clothworkers.

NORTH PITHERTON, between Bridgewater and Taunton, carries on a manufactory of serge, has a handsome church with an organ, and a good ring of bells.

MENDIP HILLS stretch out a great way in length and breadth, and are the most famous in Britain both for lead and coals. Here is said to be a strange custom called Burning the hill: if a miner is detected in stealing the lead ore, they shut him up in one of the little huts, erected for keeping the ore and tools, which they surround

round with dry furz and fern, and set it on fire. If the malefactor can throw down the hut and make his escape, he may; if not, he must be burnt to death.

BISHOP'S CHEW, called also Chew-magna, is one of the largest parishes in the county, and the houses, even of the poorer sort of people, are remarkably neat, and generally accommodated with little gardens. In this parish is Bowditch, so called from its circular form: it was a large camp on a hill trebly fortified, from whence there is a prospect of the Islands called Flatholm and Steepholm, in the Bristol channel.

FROME SELWOOD, 10 miles from Bath, though a town longer than some cities, yet it has only one church. The woollen manufacture is reckoned more considerable here than in any part of England, and more wire cards are made here than in any other town in Britain.

ANTIQUITIES in SOMERSETSHIRE.

MONTACUTE-PRIORY, of which considerable ruins still remain, was founded by William Earl of Moreton.

STOKE-COURCI CASTLE, was the head of the barony of Robert and William de Courci, sewers to the empress Maud, and Hen. II. In process of time, it descended to Eleanor wife of Hen. Percy, Earl Northumberland. In the 35th year of the reign of Hen. VI. it was surprized and burnt by Lord Bonville, and has ever since lain in ruins, but continued in the possession of the Percy family.

At STAUNTON-DREW is an ancient stone monument, something like Stone-henge, in Wiltshire, but more hid by trees.

WOKEY-HOLE is a vast cave, divided into several apartments, from the roof of which drops a petrifying water, that forms a variety of stony figures, and reflects the light of a candle very beautifully. The country people will persuade you to find out the resemblance of a thousand things in this petrified matter.

SEATS.

PRIOR PARK, near Bath, late Ralph Allen's, Esq; now the Bp. of Gloucester's (Dr. Warburton).

CLEVEN-

CLEVENDON COURT, KENNET ST. GEORGE, and KEN COURT, are three elegant structures. The former belonging to the Earl of Bristol, and the two latter to Earl Powlet.

The Bishop's palace at Bristol.

The Bishop's palace at Wells and Barnwell, belonging to the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

Lord Hawley's, at Buckland, 5 miles from Taunton.

BURTON-COURT, 11 miles from Somerton, Sir William Pynsent, Bart.

CANNINGTON, 2 miles from Bridgewater, Lord Clifford of Chudleigh.

BRYMTON, Sir Philip Sydenham's.

ORCHARD PORTMAN, Hen. Portman's, Esq;

MARSTON BIGOT, near Frome, Earl of Corke.

WITHAM FRIERY, near the same place, Earl of Egremont.

FARLEY-CASTLE, near Philip's Norton, formerly called Farley Montford; in the reign of Rich. II. it was sold to Sir Rob. Hungerford; and at present belongs to Mr. Houlston.

NUNGE-CASTLE was for many ages the seat of Delamere; but, in the time of Rich. II. passed, by means of an heiress, into the family of Paulet, ancestor to the present Duke of Bolton; and afterwards came into the possession of William Whitchurch, Esq;

W I L T S H I R E

IS bounded by Somersetshire and part of Gloucestershire on the W. by Berkshire and Hampshire on the E. by Gloucestershire on the N. by Dorsetshire and part of Hampshire on the S. It is about 44 miles in length, 40 in breadth, and 140 in circumference; containing 29 hundreds, 23 market towns, and 304 parishes.

The northern part, called North Wiltshire, is watered with clear streams, and interspersed with small hills, which afford a delightful prospect. The soil of the valleys

leys is very fruitful, but that of the hills chalky, and in some places barren. Prodigious flocks of sheep are, however, fed on the downs, and present the spectator with an object rich and delightful beyond imagination.

Its chief rivers are the Isis, Kennet, upper and lower Avon, Willey, Bourne, and Nadder.

SALISBURY, or NEW SARUM, 17 miles from Andover, and 83 from Lond. is an episcopal see, and a large well built pleasant city, near which 4 of the above mentioned rivers join their streams, and flow through every street. The cathedral is considered as the most elegant and regular in the kingdom; particularly for its lofty stone spire. The number of windows, pillars, and doors, in this fabric, are thus enumerated:

As many days as in one year there be,
 So many windows in one church we see;
 As many marble pillars there appear,
 As there are hours throughout the fleeting year:
 As many gates as moons one year does view.
 Strange tale to tell, yet not more strange than true.

There are three other churches besides the cathedral. The market-place, in which is a fine town house, is a square so spacious that three or four battalions of foot may be mustered without being crowded. There are some remarkable monuments in the cathedral and other places, that cannot fail of entertaining the curious.

OLD SARUM, from the ruins whereof arose the New, is about one mile from it to the N. and is as ancient as the old Britons. This town stood on a hill, and was deserted in the reign of Henry III. when the new town and present cathedral were built. A few obscure fragments of the town walls are only to be discovered; but the high circular intrenchment round it remains intire, with another in the centre for the citadel: the most regular plan that can be imagined. This place, though now only an open field, with one solitary public house at the entrance, has the honour to be represented in parliament by the same number of members as the city of York!

WILTON,

WILTON, 3 miles from Salisbury, is situated near the conflux of the Nadder with the Willey; from whence it had its name. It was once the shire town, with 12 churches; now a small place, remarkable for the Earl of Pembroke's house: the curiosities in which no traveller omits to take particular notice of. The famous carpet manufacture is carried on in this town.

DOWNTON, pleasantly situated on the river Avon; an ancient borough, 84 miles from London.

HINDON, 97 miles from London, another small borough on the borders of Dorsetshire.

HEYTESBURY, is situated near the W. borders of the county, on the river Willey. Here is a collegiate church and a free school.

WESTBURY, 4 miles from Trowbridge, a small borough town in an open county adjoining to Salisbury-plain, has a good church, a peculiar to that of Salisbury.

CALNE, 12 miles from Marlborough, stands on a little river; is a small but populous well built town: remarkable for a synod held here, anno 977, about the celibacy of the clergy.

DEVIZES, 89 miles from London, said to have been inhabited by the Romans; because on Round-way-hill, which overlooks the town, there is a square camp with a single trench, where Roman coins are frequently found. It is a town of large trade, and has several flourishing manufactures of woollen cloth. The buildings are old but good, and make an elegant appearance.

CHIPPENHAM, on the river Avon, is a large populous well built town, 6 miles from Calne, 94 from London, has a bridge consisting of 16 arches. The church is magnificent, having on the walls and windows the arms of the Hungerfords, who, if they did not erect it, as some think, are supposed to have beautified it, when, by licence from Hen. VI. they built a chapel.

MALMSBURY, 95 miles from Lond. stands on a hill, with 6 bridges over the river Avon. It formerly had walls, and a castle, which has been long since rased. It is a neat town, and carries on a considerable trade in the woollen manufacture. This place was formerly famous for

for its abbey, great part of which still remains. It was at first only a hermitage, where Maildolphus, a famous hermit, resided, and from whom the town took its name. —After living in this solitude some years, he found means to change his hermitage into a monastery, and was himself the first abbot.

CRICKLADE, 10 miles from Malmesbury, and 83 from London, was antiently a town of great note, situated at the influx of the rivulets Churn and Rey into the Isis.

GREAT BEDWIN, formerly a city, and the metropolis of Cissa, a Viceroy of Wiltshire and Berkshire in the time of the Saxons, is 70 miles from Lond. The church, which is a spacious fabric, is built in the form of a cross, and has a lofty tower in the center. It has several ancient monuments, particularly that to the memory of Sir John Seymour, father to the protector.

LUGGERSHALL, 75 miles from London, is a borough by prescription, though only a small hamlet town. It is situated in a delightful country, which was the residence of several Kings.

WOTTEN BASSET, 8 miles from Malmesbury, and 89 from London, is a borough both by charter and prescription, but affords nothing remarkable.

MARLBOROUGH, 75 miles from Lond. so called from the chalky soil in which it is situated, is prettily built, but consists chiefly of one large straight street, with piazza's all along one side of it. It has 2 parish churches and several commodious inns, being the grand thoroughfare from London to Bath and Bristol. To the S. are some ruins of a priory, particularly the gatehouse. The Earl of Northumberland's seat here was the site of the Roman Castrum; and toward the river, without the garden walls, one angle of it manifestly remains. The mount at the W. end of the town was the Keep, or Donjon of the castle, and has now a pretty spiral walk up to an elegant summer-house, from whence there is a fine view of the town and country.

TROWBRIDGE, 99 miles from London, has a good stone bridge over the river Were.

BRAD-

BRADFORD, 4 miles from Trowbridge, has a bridge over Lower Avon, which rises in N. Wiltshire, crosses the Foss way, and runs by Malmesbury, Chippenham, and this town.

HOLT, a village very famous by its mineral waters, and resorted to for the cure of scrophulous distempers. This medicinal spring was first discovered in 1718.

COSHAM, 3 miles from Chippenham, and 9 from Bath, stands in a dry stony soil, not very fertile, but is a most pleasant village; and if we may credit the countenances of the living, and the monuments of their dead in the church yard, it is the seat of health and long life. Ethelred, one of our Saxon Kings, had a palace and kept his court here. Since the restoration, Lady Hungerford built here an alms-house and a free school.

LAVINGTON, called formerly Market-Lavington, is situated in a very pleasant country, 7 miles from the Devizes.

MAIDEN BRADLEY, is a village on the borders of Somersetshire, where there was formerly a priory for canons; but at present noted for the D. of Somerset's seats.

MERE, 100 miles from London, in an angle of this county, bordering upon Somersetshire and Dorsetshire, is esteemed as the principal staple for wool.

WARMINSTER, 97 miles from Lond. through which the river Deverel runs, is a very ancient town, and has a considerable trade. On the hills to the Eastward of the town are two ancient camps, one called Battlebury, supposed from its double works to be Danish; the other Scratchbury, a square fortification, with a single trench.

Clay-hill a little to the W. of this town, is remarkable for its height, which renders it conspicuous for many miles round; and for a hillock on the top, which, at a distance, appears like the crown of a man's hat. The downs, generally called Salisbury plains, extend into Dorsetshire and Hampshire; they feed innumerable flocks of sheep, though great part has been lately cultivated and rendered arable.

The first remarkable thing on the Dorsetshire side of these plains is Wardour, or Warder-castle, where
Lady

Lady Arundel, being attacked by 1300 of the parliament army, defended herself bravely for a week with only 25 men, and at last surrendered upon honourable terms.

2. CLARENDON PARK, on the E. side of Salisbury-plain, is large and beautiful, and most commodious for keeping and breeding deer. There are 20 groves in this park, each of them a mile in compass. About half a mile from it is a remarkable Roman camp, being a circular fortification, and situated on a dry chalky hill.

3. STONE HENGE, about 6 miles N. of Salisbury, is reckoned one of the wonders of this island. The learned have taken great pains about this remarkable piece of antiquity, which fills the beholder with astonishment, and has attracted, by its extravagant grandeur, the admiration of all ages. Antiquaries have been greatly divided in their opinions with regard to this famous antique structure: at present they seem to acquiesce in the opinion, that it was one of the grand temples of the British Druids.

The stones which compose this building are natural, not factitious, as some have suspected; and must, notwithstanding their enormous weight, have been brought 15 or 16 miles, namely, from the Grey-Weathers, near Abury on Marlborough-downs, all the larger stones, the altar only excepted, being of that kind. This stupendous work is situated near the summit of a hill: the appearance, even at the distance of half a mile, is awful; but as you advance up the avenue on the N. E. side, the greatness of its center fills the eye in an astonishing manner. It is inclosed in a circular ditch, which having passed, you ascend 35 yards before you come to the work, on entering which you are affected by the yawning ruins that surround you. The stones of which this ancient temple is composed, are of amazing magnitude: one of them, though not the largest, which is fallen down and broke, weighs above 40 tons. As you advance farther, the ponderous imposts over head, the chasms of sky between the jambs of the cell, the odd construction of the whole, and the greatness of every part, surprize. If you look

look upon the perfect part, you fancy entire quarries mounted up into the air; if upon the rude havock below, you see, as it were, the bowels of a mountain turned inside out.

Stone-henge consists of two circles and two ovals respectively concentric; the outer circle being 108 feet in diameter. The intention of the founders seems to have been this. The whole circle was to consist of 100 upright stones, each stone four cubits broad, and each interval two cubits. Of the outer circle, which in its perfection consisted of 60 stones, and 30 imposts, there are 17 uprights left standing, 11 of which are contiguous by the grand entrance, and have five imposts upon them. The lesser circle, which never had any imposts, is somewhat more than 8 feet from the inside of the outward one, and consisted of 40 lesser stones, forming with the outward circle, a kind of circular portico. There are only 19 of the forty left, but 11 of them are standing *in situ*, 5 in one place contiguous, 3 in another, 2 in another.

The walk between these two circles, which is 300 feet in circumference, is equally grand and delightful. The adytum or cell, into which none but the upper order of Druids entered, is composed of certain compages of stones, or trilithons, consisting of two upright stones and an impost at top; there are evidently 5 of these remaining, 3 of which are intire, 9 are ruined in some measure, but the stones remain *in situ*. The stones that compose it are really stupendous; their height, breadth, and thickness are enormous; and to see so many of them placed together in a nice and critical figure with exactness; to consider, as it were, not a pillar of one stone, but a whole wall, a side, and end of a temple, of one stone; to view them curiously, creates such a motion in the mind, as words cannot express. The stones which form the two ovals, rise in height as they approach nearer the upper end of the adytum. With regard to the altar, it is laid towards the upper end of the adytum, at present flat on the ground, and squeezed into it, as it were, by the weight of the ruins upon it. It is a kind of blue coarse marble, like that of Derbyshire; two cubits three palms

in

in breadth, 10 cubits in length, and one cubit or 20 inches in thickness. The number of stones now remaining of this famous temple is 140.

Near this amazing work of antiquity, are a great number of elevations something resembling the form of a bell, called burrows or barrows; these are sepulchral tumuli, wherein the ancient Britons deposited the ashes of their dead, and raised in memory of soldiers slain there.

ABURY, on Marlborough-downs, consists of huge stones, like Stonehenge. These stupendous remains are also supposed to be the ruins of an ancient temple of the Druids: so large that a whole village is now contained within its circumference.

AMBRESBURY, 78 miles from London, is a place of great antiquity. Here was once a famous nunnery of Benedictines; Eleanor, Queen to Henry III. retired, died, and was buried here; as were also Aurelius, and several other British Princes. The place is at present remarkable for a small fish taken in the river called a loach, which the company who resort hither put into a glass of sack, and swallow alive.

WAMSDYKE is a prodigious trench, thrown up for many miles in length, about the middle of this county; but when or for what reason it was dug, is not agreed upon by authors.

SEATS.

PALACE of the Bishop of Salisbury, in that city.

ARLINGTON HOUSE, six miles from Salisbury.

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, near Marlborough, Earl of Northumberland's.

WILTON HOUSE, Earl of Pembroke's, near Salisbury.

RAMSBURY PLACE, four miles from Marlborough, Mr. Jones's.

EDDINGTON, Duke of Bolton's, 3 miles from Westbury.

DAMERHAM, Duke of Newcastle's, near Mere.

CHARLETON, Earl of Suffolk's, six miles from the Devizes.

LONG-

LONGLEAT, Lord Weymouth's, 5 miles from Warminster.

LEDIARD-TREGOSE, near Wootton-basset, Lord Bolingbroke's.

WARDOUR CASTLE, 11 miles from Salisbury, belongs to the Lord Arundel of Wardour, mentioned above, p. 45.

WOLF HALL, Mr. Seymour's, near Luggershall.

BOWDEN PARK, 5 miles from the Devizes.

BRUMHAM HOUSE, 3 miles from the Devizes.

CHUTE LODGE, 11 miles from Marlborough.

KING's and QUEEN's MANOR, both in Clarendon park, 2 miles from Salisbury.

TOTTENHAM PARK, 5 miles from Marlborough, a fine seat of Lord Bruce, the building of which was directed by the late Earl of Burlington.

HAMPSHIRE

IS bounded on the W. by Dorsetshire and Wiltshire; on the N. by Berkshire; on the E. by Surry and Suffex; and on the S. by the E. channel. It is 64 miles in length, from N. to S. and 36 in breadth from E. to W. is above 150 miles in circumference, contains 39 hundreds, one city, 18 market towns, and 253 parishes. The soil of Hampshire is various as to its fertility, the hilly parts being like other downs, fit only for sheep; but the lower grounds are very fruitful both in corn and pasture. No county in England exceeds this for quantity of excellent timber, notwithstanding the prodigious consumption that has been made of it since the revolution, in building and repairing ships.

The chief rivers are the Avon, the Test, and the Itching.

WINCHESTER, 64 miles from London, is the metropolis of this county; it stands on the river Itching. This city lies in a bottom, like an amphitheatre, surrounded with chalk hills, and is of great antiquity, supposed to have

have been built nine hundred years before the Christian æra. It was very famous in the time of the Romans, when there were looms here for weaving cloths for the Emperors and their armies. On St. Catherine's-hill, near the city, is a camp; and on the side of the West gate was a castle, where the West Saxon Kings kept their court. That there was a college here for religious men in the earliest ages of Christianity is very probable, and the old piece of wall near the W. gate of the cathedral, is thought to be the remains of it. It is of great strength and thickness, with several windows in it, and built with small flint and mortar as hard as stone. The cathedral is a large venerable structure, but not very elegant. Instead of a steeple or spire, it has only a flat tower. The most remarkable particulars in this structure are the front, which consists of black marble; the ascent to the choir, the Bishop's throne, the stalls of the prebendaries, the ascent to the altar, the altar-piece, esteemed, by much, the noblest in England, and the great East window curiously painted. The bones of many of our Saxon Kings are preserved in ornamented chests, in the fronts of the galleries at the E. end, with their names inscribed. The see of Winchester is one of the richest in the kingdom. When Edward III. would have preferred its bishop, Edendon, to that of Canterbury, he refused, saying, That though Canterbury was the highest *rack*, Winchester was the better *manger*. When William of Wykeham was Bishop, he obtained, among other privileges, that the Bishops of Winchester should be Prelates of the Order of the Garter, and Chancellors to the Archbishops of Canterbury. There are besides the cathedral six other churches. The city is almost surrounded by a wall. The hospital of St. Cross, founded by Bishop Blois, is worth the observation of the curious; where provision is made for 12 decayed gentlemen or tradesmen. Here is a college founded by William of Wykeham, beside several public schools, and an hospital built and endowed in 1672, by Bishop Morley, for 10 clergymen's widows. The Roman Highway leads from this city to

D

Alton,

Alton, and thence, as supposed, to London. The river Itching, which runs on the borders of it, is made navigable from Southampton to this city. Among the several elegant buildings of this city, the royal and bishop's palaces, the assize-hall, council-house, and market-cross, merit attention. The royal palace was begun by King Charles II. but death prevented his finishing the structure, nor has any monarch since resumed the work, so that it is now almost in ruins.

SOUTHAMPTON, 12 miles from Winchester, 76 from Lond. stands between two large rivers, the Itching and the Tese, that fall here into that called Southampton water. It has a wall almost round it of a hard kind of stone. Hen. VI. made it a county of itself, which renders it independent of the Lord Lieutenant. The chief street is one of the broadest and longest in England; it has one large key, and one other called West-Key, where the Guernsey and Jersey vessels always anchor, with which islands they carry on a considerable trade. The approach to the town from the London road, is extremely pleasant.

PORTSMOUTH, 72 miles from London, the great key of England, is regularly fortified, and stands at the entrance of a creek, on the island of Portsea. It is also defended by South-Sea-castle, Blockhouse-castle, and a chain that goes across the harbour from the round tower to the opposite shore. This is the narrowest point of entrance to a large and safe harbour. The dock-yard is as convenient as can be imagined, capable of docking 25 or 30 ships in a fortnight. In the dock is likewise a royal academy. The Common, as it is called, is the residence chiefly of the artificers and officers of the dock: but at this time has more houses and inhabitants than the town itself. There is one very magnificent church, having on the top of its steeple a ship for a weather cock; and a large gun wharf deserving notice.

PETERSFIELD, 53 miles from London, is a populous town on the road to Portsmouth. It is a borough, and governed by a mayor and commonalty, who shamefully gave

gave up their privileges to the family of the Hamborrows, lords of the manor, at whose court the mayor is annually chosen.

STOCKBRIDGE, 6 miles from Andover, 66 from Lond. is a borough. The bailiffe, who is generally an innkeeper, is the returning officer at elections for parliament; and that he may have an opportunity of receiving bribes, without incurring the penalty, has frequently procured one of his hostlers to be elected bailiffe, and has himself carried the mace before him. Sir Richard Steele, who represented this borough, procured his election by sticking a large apple full of guineas, declaring it should be the prize of that man, whose wife should first be brought to bed; which merry offer secured him the interest of all the borough ladies.

CHRIST-CHURCH, is a large populous borough, at the conflux of the river Avon with the Stowre from Dorsetshire, 98 miles from London. Its chief manufactures are silk stockings and gloves.

LIMINGTON, 93 miles from London, is a small seaport town, remarkable for large convenient salterns, and brick-kilns. It is opposite to the West end of the Isle of Wight near the Needles.

WHITCHURCH, 58 miles from London, though a small town, is pleasantly situated on the skirts of the forest of Chute. Its principal trade is in shalloons, serges, and other articles of the woollen manufacture.

ANDOVER, 18 miles from Basingstoke, 65 from Lond. a large, handsome, well-built, populous town, pleasantly situated on the side of the downs, which makes it as healthy as delightful. It is a great malting town, and its chief manufacture is shalloons. On the W. of it is a village, at the beginning of Salisbury-plain, called Weyhill, which, though containing only a desolate church on a rising ground, and a few straggling houses, is remarkable for one of the largest fairs in England, for hops, cheese, and sheep.

RINGWOOD, 91 miles from London, is a large thriving place, full of good brick houses, on the river Avon;

stands in a valley well watered by the streams, into which the river here divides itself.

The **NEW FOREST**, is a name given about 700 years ago to a large track of land in this county, of near 30 miles in circumference, which had many villages and towns in it, and no less than 36 mother-churches: but the whole was laid waste by William the Conqueror, that it might be made a habitation for wild animals for him to hunt. It is remarkable, that in this forest two of his sons, Richard and William Rufus, lost their lives. Richard was killed by a pestilential blast, and William Rufus by an arrow, shot by Sir Walter Tyrrell at a stag; and Henry, while he pursued his game, was caught by the hair of his head in the boughs of a tree, and suspended there till he died. There is an oak still to be seen, which Charles II. pointed in, on the tradition that it was the very tree against which Sir Walter Tyrrell's arrow glanced, when it killed Rufus.

HURST CASTLE, or rather a block-house, built by Henry VIII. for defence of the New Forest, which had lain several ages open and exposed to a foreign enemy, stands on a small neck of land, which runs from Milford two miles into the sea; and makes a narrow rough passage between it and the Needles.

CALSHOT CASTLE, some miles to the N. E. of Hurst castle, over against Cowes in the Isle of Wight, has also a small garrison, and a commodious harbour. It was built by Henry VIII. to defend the entrance into what is called Southampton bay.

RUMSEY, 74 miles from London, on the river Teste, is a pretty large, as well as ancient town, in the road between Southampton and Salisbury, very delightfully situated, with woods, meadows, hills, corn fields, and rivulets, around it. The church is magnificent, in the form of a cross, and has semicircular chapels in the upper angles. In the old church, founded by King Edgar, for nuns of the Benedictine order, were buried King Edward and his son Alfred.

ALRESFORD, 57 miles from London, stands in the road betwixt London and Winchester, on the banks of the

the river Alre. Part of a Roman highway, that goes from this part to Alton and London, serves for the head of a great pond near this town.

BASINGSTOKE, 46 miles from London, on the N. side of the shire, is a large populous place, and has a good market for corn, especially barley, there being a great malt trade carried on here. The history of the Apostles is artificially described on the roof of the chapel. Near Basingstoke was formerly a seat of John Marquis of Winchester, called Basing-House, which the Marquis, in the great civil war, turned into a fortress for the King, and having a resolute band of soldiers under him, held it a long while; but Cromwell took it by storm, put many of the garrison to the sword, and burnt the house to the ground. Among the furniture destroyed was a bed worth 1400l. and the plunder was so considerable, that a private soldier got 300l. for his own share.

ODIHAM, 41 miles from London, is a small corporate town, where was formerly a royal palace, which in King John's reign was defended by 13 men for 15 days, against Lewis, Dauphin of France, and the army of the Barons. In this castle David King of Scotland was kept prisoner, in the reign of Edward III.

SILCHESTER, on the borders of Berkshire, is famous for its antiquity; being the ruins of the ancient city Vindevia or Vindonum, said to have been built by Constantine, son of Constantine the Great, and that he sowed corn in the track of the walls, as an omen for their perpetuity; but now, beside a farm house, a church, and part of the Roman way, scarcely any vestige remains.

KING'S CLERE, 5 miles from Newbury, 56 from London, a pleasant town, remarkable for having been the residence of the Saxon Kings.

I S L E of W I G H T

IS reckoned a part of Hampshire, though it lies distant from the nearest main land about 5 or 6 miles. It is of an elliptical form, 22 miles in length, 12 in breadth,

> 60 in circumference, and is divided into 30 parishes. The air is universally esteemed to be as pure and healthful as any in the kingdom, and the soil so rich, as to produce corn enough in one year to serve it seven.--- Through the middle of the island runs a ridge of lofty hills, which not only afford plentiful pasture, but a delightful prospect of the sea. The vales below, consist of meadow and corn fields; nor is the coast destitute of natural curiosities: here is excellent fish of various kinds. The extremities of the coast on the S. and W. sides are very rocky; and westward, not far from the shore, are those rocks called the Needles, from their sharpness. Farther to the southward are the Shingles; at both which places the island is inaccessible: and where it is almost level, as it is toward the S. E. it is fortified by art.

NEWPORT, the principal town in the island, about 5 miles from Cowes, is a very ancient borough, and a large populous town, greatly enriched by its plenty and commerce, which the inhabitants have not failed to improve: and as they are grown very polite, they have levelled and new pitched the town, posted and paved it with broad stone, about 5 feet from the houses, for foot passengers; for being the only market town, it is often very much crowded. Two hundred waggons loaded with grain, have been known to come to this market in one day. Cowes river is navigable by barges to Newport key, which extends itself round good part of the town, which renders their shipping goods from the storehouses very commodious: the streets are regular and uniform, meeting at right angles. The corn, beast, and butter markets are kept in distinct squares, very large and commodious. The buildings are greatly improved, but neither grand nor regular. The church is a large building, with a square tower, and the inhabitants have lately erected an organ, and otherwise greatly decorated it: yet this church is but a chapel of ease to Carisbrook, a small village about a mile from Newport, and famous for a castle, built about the time of the Norman conquest, which was the residence of the ancient lords of the island. It is now

now greatly decayed by time; but the intrenchment without the walls, the many curiosities within, and the extensive prospect it affords, render it one of the greatest curiosities in the island. Here King Charles I. was confined, till removed to Hurst castle.

About two miles from Newport, near St. George's down, are large rocks, from whence water continually drops; in the road to which is Shidebridge, a remarkable pleasant walk, and famous for a constant spring of fine water.

YARMOUTH, 7 miles from Newport, is a place for fishermen, and where vessels sometimes put in, when the weather permits them not to fail by the Needles.

COWES is a remarkable port and harbour, at the mouth of Newport river: here is a fine saltern erected, and a castle built by Henry VIII.

ST. HELENS lies at the E. end of the island, 12 miles from Newport. It is only remarkable for its road, which is large enough to contain the whole navy of England.

FRESHWATER is a small village 10 miles from Newport, famous for its cliffs, which are of a stupendous height, and often visited by strangers, on account of the great number of exotic birds, which annually resort to these cliffs to lay their eggs, hatch, and breed their young. At the western extremity of this parish, stand those lofty rocks called the Needles.

ANTIQUITIES in HAMPSHIRE.

NETLEY ABBEY, near Southampton, was founded in the year 1239, by Hen. III. for Cistercian monks.

TITCHFIELD ABBEY, founded by Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, in the reign of Hen. III. for premonstratensian canons, was once a noble structure.

PORCHESTER CASTLE, is the remains of the walls and fortifications of a very ancient and famous town, called Port Peris, to which the name of Portchester was afterwards given. This is supposed to be the place where the Emperor Vespasian landed.

SEATS.

BEAULIEU, in the New Forest, belonging to the late Duke of Montague.

HAWKWOOD and BASINGHOUSE, both near Basingstoke; and ABBOTSON near Alton, all belonging to the Duke of Bolton. Basing-house held out a siege against Cromwell's forces in the time of the civil wars.

ROCKBOURN-HOUSE, 15 miles from Southampton, Earl of Shaftesbury's.

FARNBOROUGH-PLACE, six miles from Odiham, belonging to the Earl of Anglesea.

BEAVIS-MOUNT, near Southampton.

HUSBANDS, near Andover, belonging to the Earl of Portsmouth, who has also a late built seat at Farley-Wallop, near Basingstoke.

WHOREWELL, near Andover, the Earl of Delawar.

LADY-HOLT, five miles from Petersfield, belonging to ----- Caryl, Esq;

GRANGE, near Alresford, belonging to Lord Henley.

EDSWORTH, 10 miles from Portsmouth, L. Dormer's.

STRATFIELDSEA, near SILCHESTER.

TITHERLY, near Wallop, belonging to the Rolles family.

SOUTHWICK, 5 miles from Portsmouth, Rich. Norton, Esq;

QUARLEY, on the East side of the hill of the same name, where there are trenches and other vestiges of an ancient fortification, belonging to Henry Hoare, Esq;

GRATELY, on the S. side of the same hill, belonging to Henry Earle, Esq;

MAPPLEDURHAM, near Petersfield, the seat of the late Right Hon. Hen. Bilson Legge, Esq;

TITCHFIELD-PLACE, near Titchfield, belonging to the Duke of Portland.

The VINE, near Basingstoke, Mr. Chute.

IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

APPULDURCOMB PARK, 6 miles from Newport; belonging to Sir Rich. Worsley, Bart.

KING-

BERKSHIRE.

57

KINGSTON, belonging to Lady Meaux.

Sir William Oglander's, at Nunwell; and Mr Knight's, at Brading.

A seat belonging to ----- Holmes, Esq; at Yarmouth; and another to ----- Grimes, Esq; at Newchurch.

NORTHCOURT HOUSE, the seat of Lord Ducie.

GATCOMBE, belonging to Edward Worsley, Esq.

STENBURY, James Worsley, Esq.

STEEPHILL, a romantic cottage under the cliff on the S. side of the island, belonging to the Hon. Hans Stanley, governor of the Isle of Wight.

BERKSHIRE

IS bounded on the S. by Hampshire; on the W. by Wiltshire; on the N. by the Thames, which divides it from the counties of Buckingham and Oxford; and on the E. by Surry. It is about 39 miles long, 29 broad, 120 in circumference; contains four parliamentary boroughs, 20 hundreds, 12 market towns, 140 parishes, and 671 villages. The soil is very fertile, where cultivated; and the whole county, one of the most pleasant in England, is well stored with cattle and timber. Its principal rivers are the Thames and the Kennet; the former flows on the N. side, and the latter on the S. Its chief manufactures are woollen cloth, sail cloth, and malt.

The river Thames washes more of this county than of any other it touches, making the entire northern and eastern boundary between it and the counties of Oxford and Buckingham. This benefit from the Thames gives it both fertility and convenience for the carriage of its commodities to London, of which it sends a great many, particularly malt, meal, and timber. There is not a pleasanter or more healthful county in the kingdom.

The four parliamentary boroughs are,

I. WINDSOR, 21 miles from London, on the river Thames, a very ancient town. William the Conqueror, charmed with the fine situation of Windsor, built a castle

here; Henry I. rebuilt and fortified it. Queen Eleanor, wife to Edward I. so greatly delighted in this palace, that she lay in with four children here. Edward III. who was born here, enlarged and beautified it; built the royal palace and chapel, together with St. George's hall and its chapel, and instituted here the Order of the Garter. Queen Elizabeth added the noble terrace, faced with free stone ramparts, like those of a fortified city, which is scarce to be equalled in Europe. K. Charles II. laid out great sums in repairing, new modelling, and furnishing this palace; and there is a fine equestrian statue of him erected in 1680, over a great well in the inner court. King William added many ornaments, enlarged the park, augmented the avenue of trees, &c. The paintings are in general from the finest designs, and executed by the best masters. St. George's hall is esteemed one of the finest in Europe. The royal chapel is beautifully adorned with curious paintings by Verrio. The round-tower is built like an amphitheatre, very high, with elegant apartments. On the N. side is St. George's, or the chapel of the garter, one of the most elegant Gothic structures in the universe. In the choir are the stalls of the 26 knights of the order, and their banners over them, with a throne for their sovereign.

Here are two parks; the little park about 3 miles, and the great park 14 miles, in circumference, stocked with all kinds of game, and lavishly embellished by the hand of nature. In the forest, which is 30 miles round, are several seats; particularly Cranburn Lodge, which stands on the top of a hill, and has a view not only of Windsor and its parks, but of London and the adjacent country. The Duke of Cumberland, who is ranger of both parks, has fixed his residence here; the gardens are large and elegant.

2. READING, the principal town of the county, 12 miles from Maidenhead, and 39 from London, stands on the river Thames, near the influx of the Kennet, has three parish churches, built of flint and square stone: an hospital was founded here, and liberally endowed, by Archbishop Laud. It had anciently a monastery, equal to

Translated by Henry 1th

to most in England, both for riches and beauty: the gatehouse is still pretty entire, and there are some remains of its walls 8 feet thick. The most remarkable curiosity of natural history is, a continued bed of oyster-shells, which for many generations has been found near this place, extended through the circumference of 5 or 6 acres of ground.

3. WALLINGFORD, 11 miles from Reading, and 46 from London, is a pretty town, with a stone bridge 309 yards long, having 19 arches and draw-bridges. Its chief support is the malt trade, from the convenience of sending to London. Here are 4 churches, a town hall, and a free school. It had formerly a famous castle, some ruins of which are still to be seen.

4. ABINGDON, about 56 miles from London, very remarkable, in the time of the Britons, for the conversion of many Pagans to Christianity, and for being the seat of the King. Here was a magnificent abbey, founded by Cissa, but destroyed at the general dissolution of monasteries: here was also a fine cross and market-house; but both, during the civil wars, shared the same fate with the abbey: the loss of the latter was, however, not many years ago, supplied by a new one, built on lofty pillars, with a large hall of free stone above, in which the county assizes are frequently held. The streets of the town are well paved, and center in a spacious area, where the market is held, which is very considerable, especially for barley.

Other places of note in Berkshire, are,

1. FARRINGDON, 7 miles from Wantage, 71 from London, is a neat clean town, pleasantly situated on a hill, near the river Ouse. The church is a large handsome structure. From hence almost to Abingdon, extends that fertile vale, called the vale of White Horse, from the bare side of a chalky hill, representing that animal, which the inhabitants of the adjacent villages take some pains, once a year, to trim and keep to its shape: it may be seen at a great distance. Land is said to be dearer here than any where else, at the same distance from London.

2. **WANTAGE**, 7 miles from Abingdon, 60 from London, is a pretty neat town, noted for being formerly a royal villa, and the birth-place of King Alfred.

3. **HUNGERFORD**, 64 miles from London, stands on the river Kennet, famous for the best trouts and cray fish; but neither its buildings nor market are considerable. The constable, who is chose yearly, is lord of the manor, and holds it immediately under the King. They have a horn here, holding about a quart, which, the inscription says, was given by John of Gaunt.

4. **NEWBURY** or **NEWBOROUGH**, 56 miles from London, remarkable for being the birth-place of that great clothier, Jack of Newbury. Large quantities of shalloons and druggets are still made here; which, with its other trades, render it a flourishing town. It stands very pleasantly in a fruitful plain, on the river Kennet. The streets are spacious, particularly the market-place, in which stands the Guildhall. History reports, that at the sand-pits near this town, several were burnt for their religion, in the bloody reign of Queen Mary.

5. **LAMBORN** or **LANGHORN**, 10 miles from Newbury, has its name from a little river that runs by it, and falls into the river Kennet, near Thackham. It stands on the S. side of White Horse hill, in a pleasant sporting country. It is particularly noted for its rivulet, which is always highest in Summer, but so low in Winter, as to be almost entirely lost.

6. **SUNNING**, 2 miles from Reading, stands on a fine rise of ground, the Thames flowing in a very pleasant vale below it. It is now only a parish, but History says, it was once the see of a Bishop.

7. **MAIDENHEAD**, 7 miles from Windsor, 26 from Lond. became a considerable town, from a bridge being built here over the Thames. This bridge is now neatly rebuilt of stone, on seven arches over the stream, beside three dry ones at each end, where it abuts on the shore. The town stands in two parishes, Bray and Cookham; and carries on a considerable trade in malt, meal, and timber.

8. **BRAY**,

8. **BRAY**, about a mile from Maidenhead, is famous both on account of its antiquity, and a former vicar, who was twice a Papist and twice a Protestant, in the reign of Henry VIII. Edward VI. and the Queens Mary and Elizabeth.

9. **OAKINGHAM**, 5 miles from Reading, is the chief place in Windsor Forest, consisting of several streets, a market-house, and manufactures of silk stockings and cloth.

The most remarkable antiquities not yet mentioned, are, 1. St. Leonard's hill near Windsor, on which have been discovered great numbers of ancient coins, instruments of war, and an antique lamp.

2. A large camp in East Hemsted, in Windsor forest, called Cæsar's camp.

3. Another, of a quadrangular form, with single work, on the brow of a hill, a mile above Wantage.

4. Another at Ashbury-park, near Kington Lisse, almost of a round figure, about 100 paces diameter, and the works single, supposed to be Danish.

5. Above the same hill, and at about 2 furlongs distance, is a barrow called Dragon-hill, supposed to be the tumulus of Uter-pendragon.

6. **CHERBURY CASTLE**, within two miles of Denchworth, an orbicular rampart treble ditched, said to have been the castle of the Danish King Canute.

7. **ICKLETON WAY**, a high Roman ridge, part of Ikenild-street, which the antiquaries trace to Strately.

8. About 4 miles from East Ilsey, are tombs and statues of an extraordinary size; supposed by the antiquaries to have been made for the family of La Beche, who had a castle here.

DONNINGTON CASTLE, built by Richard de Atterbury, is rendered remarkable for having been the residence of Chaucer the poet.

SEATS.

Mrs. Williams's, at Hurley, near Maidenhead.

CLEVEDON HOUSE, near Maidenhead, the seat of the Earl of Inchiquin.

Mr.

Mr. Dodd's and Mr. Walker's, at Swallowfield, near Oakingham.

Duke of St. Alban's, at Windsor.

Lord Fane's, at Basselden, six miles from Reading.

Earl of Abingdon's, at Wythame, near Oxford.

Lord Barrington's, at Becket.

Lord Craven's, at Hamsted Marshal, and Ashdam Park; the former near Newbury, the latter near East Ilsey.

The late Lord Blondell's, at Bill-hill.

ALDERMASTON, Mr. Congreve's.

Sir John Stonehouse's, at Redlay, near Abingdon.

Sir John Rush's, at Strately.

Sir Mark Stuart Pledell's, at Colehill. This house was built in 1650, by Inigo Jones, and having since undergone no alteration or addition, is remarkable for being the most (if not the only) complete work, now remaining, of that great architect.

Col. Thompson's, at Coley, near Reading.

Mr. Head's, at Hodcut.

Sir John Cope's, at Bramsell.

Mr. Nevill's, at Billingsbear.

Mr. Bertie's, at Uffingham.

Mr. Gerrard's, at Lamborn.

Mr. Soutley's, at Appleton.

Mr. Pye's, at Farrington.

Mr. Packer's, at Donnington, near Newbury.

SURREY.

IS bounded on the W. by Berkshire and Hampshire; on the S. by Sussex; on the E. by Kent; and on the N. by Middlesex. It is about 34 miles in length, 21 in breadth, and 112 in circumference; contains 13 hundreds, 140 parishes, 11 market towns, 450 villages and hamlets, and about 592,000 acres.

This is a very healthy county, and boasts of several royal palaces, with many seats of the nobility and gentry.

try. It is very fruitful in corn and hay, especially on the S. about Holmsdale, and on the N. towards the Thames.

The chief rivers of Surrey, besides the Thames, are the Mole, or Moulsey, the Wey and the Wandle. Travellers make the Mole to run under ground from Darking to Leatherhead: but upon the nicest observations, one river appears to be lost at the first of these places, and another rises at the second, though both are called by the same name.

SOUTHWARK, bordering on the Thames, which separates it from Lond. consists of 8 parishes, which together with those of St. Mary at Lambeth, St. Mary Magdalen Bermondsey, St. Mary Newington, and St. Mary Rotherhithe, compose that part of the district within the bills of mortality on the Surrey side of the river.

ST. GEORGE. In this parish, opposite the church, was once a magnificent structure, where Hen. VIII. erected a mint, whence that place took its name, and which for many years was a noted asylum for insolvent debtors.

ST. JOHN. The site of this parish was anciently grazing ground, and is still called Horsleydown.

ST. MARY LAMBETH. In this parish stood a royal mansion, where the kings of England often resided. The remarkable are the church, the archbishop's palace, those elegant gardens called Vauxhall, and the Dog and Duck mineral waters. The palace, which belongs to the Archbishops of Canterbury, owes its foundation to Abp. Baldwin, who was elected 1184. But many of his successors have greatly improved it. On Lambeth Wall is a spot of ground, called Pedlar's Acre, belonging to the parish from time immemorial; it was given by a pedlar, on condition that his portrait, with that of his dog, should be painted on glass, and preserved on one of the windows of the church; where they are accordingly still to be seen.

ST. MARY MAGDALEN, belonged to one Bermond, hence called Bermondsey. The most remarkable things

things are a machine to supply the neighbourhood with water; an ancient water course called the Necking, and a haven called St. Saviour's Dock.

ST. OLAVE. Opposite St. Olave's church anciently stood a spacious stone building, the city mansion of the Prior of Lewes, and houses for the residence of Abbots, &c. The most remarkable things now are the Bridge-house and yard, wherein are all materials for repairing London Bridge, and many wharfs for shipping and landing goods.

ST. THOMAS. The church of this parish was founded, as well as the hospital of the same name, by Edw. VI. but being decayed, was pulled down in 1702 and rebuilt. The Hospital of St. Thomas was originally erected in the year 1213, in the place where the Prior of Bermondsey had 2 years before built an alms-house for poor proselytes and children. It now consists of 3 beautiful squares, well paved and supported by pillars. In the middle of the third court is an elegant statue of Sir Robert Clayton, a great benefactor to this hospital.

There is another hospital in this parish, called Guy's Hospital, from its founder Thomas Guy, a bookseller in Lombard Street; who, from a small beginning, amassed an immense fortune, principally by purchasing seamen's tickets in the reign of Queen Anne, and by South Sea stock, in the memorable year 1720. It consists of 2 beautiful squares, in the principal of which is a statue of the founder.

GUILDFORD, the next borough town of note in this county, is a large well-built town, on the river Wey, navigable from hence to the Thames; 7 miles from Farnham, 30 from London. Not far from the river are the ruinous walls of an old castle, this place having in the Saxon times been a royal villa, where many of our kings kept their festivals. Here are 3 parish churches, of which that belonging to the upper parish has been lately rebuilt in a magnificent manner. The road to Chichester and Portsmouth lies through this town, which has long been famous for good inns and accommodations. Here are alms-houses liberally endowed, and the

the remains of a once famous manufactory of cloth. In the neighbourhood are the walls of what was formerly called St. Catherine's Chapel, built with a sort of tile, which, when broken, has the appearance of iron, and the cement of them in a manner impenetrable. The road leading from Guildford to Farnham is remarkable for running along upon the ridge of a high chalky hill, called St. Catherine's, no wider than the road itself, from whence there is a delightful prospect.

DULWICH, 5 miles from Lond. has a pretty college and neat chapel, erected and endowed by Mr. Alleyne, a player, in 1619, for 6 men and 6 women, with a school for the education of 12 children. Here are also medicinal springs, called Sydenham Wells, their waters nearly the same, but stronger than those at Epsom.

EGHAM, 3 miles from Windsor, 18 from Lond. situate on the river Thames. In this parish is Cooper's Hill, celebrated in the admired poem written by Sir John Denham, who lived many years at that which is now the parsonage-house.

Near this is RUNNEY-MEAD, where king John, terrified at the numerous army of his barons who met him here, signed the great charter of English liberty, called Magna Charta.

EPSOM, 15 miles from Lond. is situated in a healthful air, and is much used on account of its mineral waters. The form of the town is semicircular, and lies open to Banstead Downs; nature and art have united to render this place delightful.

DARKING, 12 miles from Guildford, 23 from Lond. lies on a branch of the river Mole; the Roman causeway passes through the church-yard, and may be traced near 3 miles.

There are several hills of note near this place, namely, Homebury Hill, near which by the road side leading from Darking to Arundel, is a large double trenched camp, containing 10 acres at least; and from hence is a fine prospect over the Wild into Kent and Suffex. Contiguous to this is Box-Hill, so called from the incredible quantity of box covering great part of it, which affords

fords a most enchanting prospect, and is on that account greatly resorted to.

FARNHAM, 39 miles from Lond. in the Winchester road, is a large populous town. It was formerly a great market for wheat, but of late much more remarkable for hops, of which there are very large plantations. Here is a magnificent and ancient structure belonging to the Bp. of Winchester, built by Henry of Blois, bishop of that see, and brother to King Stephen.

FRENSHAM, about 3 miles from Farnham, has a large fish-pond near it about 3 miles in circumference, noted for carp, and two others affording also plenty of fish. In the side of a hill, near Moor-park in this parish, is a curious natural grotto, neatly inclosed and paved: along the middle of which flows a stream of exceeding cold clear water. You walk to a considerable distance in it under the natural vault: it is called Mother Ludlow's Hole. This place, and the shady groves which surround it, afford a pleasant retreat in sultry weather.

GODALMING, 3 miles from Guildford, 34 from Lond. has a fine river that supplies the inhabitants with water, and plenty of good fish.

HASLEMERE, 42 miles from Lond. is an ancient town, having sent members to parliament ever since Edward the IVth, but is otherwise of little note.

KINGSTON, 12 miles from Lond. has a wooden bridge of 22 piers and 20 arches over the Thames. It is a populous trading town, with a good market for corn. There is another bridge of brick over a stream that flows from a spring in a cellar, 4 miles above the town. At some distance is Combe Nevil, a handsome house and park, where medals and coins of several of the Roman emperors have been found. Near this are several springs, whose water is conveyed to Hampton-court by pipes under the Thames. In the neighbourhood is New-park, one of the largest and best in England; made in the reign of Charles I. inclosed by a wall of considerable height, and said to be 11 miles in circumference.

RICHMOND, anciently called Shene, 12 miles from Lond. is remarkable for its beautiful situation and royal palace,

palace, in which are many curious paintings by the most eminent masters. Queen Caroline took great delight here; and his present Majesty has made amazing improvements in the gardens of this delightful place. The town runs up the hill a full mile to the park, with small gardens declining all the way to the Thames. On the top of the hill there is an alms-house built by Duppa, Bishop of Winchester, which appears by an inscription over the gate, to have been done in performance of a vow he made during the exile of King Charles II.

GATTON, 18 miles from Lond. was anciently a considerable town, but now only a miserable borough, sending nevertheless two members to parliament.

RYEGATE, 21 miles from Lond. stands in a vale which runs a great way to the eastward, usually called Holmsdale, probably from the holm trees which abound very much through all this track. It is a borough, and has still the ruins of an ancient castle. On the S. side is a fine park full of little groves; under which there is a wonderful vault of free stone, the same with that of the hill itself, and hollowed with great labour.

BLECHINGLY, a borough town, 5 miles from Ryegate, 20 from Lond. had formerly a strong castle, the ruins of which are still visible.

ANTIQUITIES in SURREY.

WAVERLEY-ABBAY, founded by William Giffard, Bp. of Winchester, A. D. 1128, for an abbot and 12 monks.

NEWARK-PRIORY, situated on the river Wey, a few miles below Guildford, was founded by Bauld de Calva, and Beatrice his wife, and is now part of the estate of Lord Onslow of Glendon.

On BATTLE-HILL, near this place, are the remains of a Roman camp, with a single rampart.

WALTINGHAM, near Blechingly, is remarkable for a fine spring in the midst of a grove of yew trees, which flows in an extraordinary manner at certain times.

CROY-

CROYDON, 10 miles from Lond. is situated on the edge of Banstead Downs, and has a large palace belonging to the Abp. of Canterbury. The church is reckoned both the finest and largest in the whole county, and has several elegant monuments.

BANSTEAD-DOWNS, in its neighbourhood, are remarkable for their fine verdure, the pretty villages which surround them, and their enchanting prospects.

Other antiquities and remarkables, are, 1. The remains of a Roman camp of about 12 acres, at Walton upon Thames, to which there runs a rampart with its trench from St. George's Hill. 2. A military work of an orbicular form near Wimbledon, called Bensbury, where Cheaulm, king of the West Saxons, fought and defeated one of the Kentish generals. 3. At Effingham, S. W. of Leatherhead, are the foundations of buildings, which denote that it was once a town of note. It is said to have had 16 churches in it. 4. Aldbury, 5 miles E. of Guildford, is the platform of a Roman temple. The place is also remarkable for a perforation or passage of at least a furlong in length, dug through the bottom of a great hill, and leading into a fine valley. It was intended for a way to the house, then the seat of Hen. Duke of Norfolk; but the design being hindered by a rock, it is now only preserved and admired as a grotto. 5. The river Mole, which, at the place called the Swallows, sinks into the earth, and, according to tradition, works its way under ground to Leatherhead, where it is supposed to rise again, and direct its course to the Thames. But this last has been already mentioned, and in some measure accounted for.

SEATS.

Duke of Newcastle's, at Clermont, between Kingston and Cobham.

Lord Middleton's, at Pepper-Harrow, 5 miles from Guildford.

ESMER PLACE, the seat of the late Henry Pelham, Esq; It is situated on the Mole, and was built by William Wainfleet, Bishop of Winchester, about 1447.

BETCH-

S U R R E Y.

69

BETCHWORTH CASTLE, the seat of Abraham Tucker, Esq; situated on a fine eminence near the river Mole.

Duke of Argyle's, at Sudbrook, near Kingston.

Duke of Grafton's, at Nonesuch, near Richmond.

Duke of Roxburgh's, on Bagshot Heath.

Earl of Anglesea's, at Farnborough, near the Heath.

Earl of Portmore's, at Weybridge.

Earl of Aylesford's, at Aldbury, near Guildford.

Earl of Effingham's, at Great Buckham, near Guildford.

Lord North and Guildford's, at Durdans, near Epsom.

Lord Trevor's, at Peckham, 3 miles from London.

Late Lord Windsor's, at Beachworth, near Dorking.

Late Lord Baltimore's, at Woodcote, near Epsom.

Lord St. John's, at Battersea, near London.

Lord Onslow's, at Clendon-Place, near Guildford.

Lord Onslow's, at Imber Court, near Thames Ditton and Kingston.

Denzil Onslow's, Esq; at Pyriford, on the river Wey.

Sir Francis Vincent's, at Stoke Dalbernoon.

Mr. Evelyn's, at Wootton, near Leith-hill.

Mr. Harvey's, at Combe-Nevil, near Kingston.

Mr. Travis's, at Epsom. This house, and the beautiful gardens belonging to it, are remarkable for being situated in a chalk-pit.

The Moors, at Lotherley, near Guildford, and at Fetcham, near Leatherhead.

Mr. Temple's, at Moor-Park, 2 miles from Farnham.

S U S S E X

IS bounded on the N. by Surrey, on the E. by Kent, on the W. by Hampshire, and on the S. by the British Channel; which indeed almost half surrounds it towards the S. and E. It is about 65 miles in length, 29 in breadth, and 107 in circumference; is divided into 6 rapes, which have each its castle, river, and forest; and subdivided into 65 hundreds, wherein are reckoned

312 parishes, one city, 18 market towns, and 1060 villages, hamlets, and chapelries. The principal rivers are the Arun, the Adur, the Ouse, and the Rother; besides which are the Lavant, the Cuckmeer, the Ashburn, and the Austen.

The soil is various, the hilly parts less fruitful than the others; the vales, especially in that called the Weald, dirty but very fertile. On the sea-coast are very high green hills, called the South Downs, well known to travellers for their beautiful prospect, but better to those who deal in wool or sheep, there being great numbers bred here, whose wool, which is very fine, is too often exported clandestinely to France. The middle part of the country is delightfully chequered with meadows, pastures, groves and corn-fields, which produce great quantities of wheat and barley. The N. quarter is shaded with woods, from whence great quantities of excellent timber are carried to the dock-yards, and of charcoal to the iron works, in the eastern part of the county.

CHICHESTER, or city of Cissa, 62 miles from Lond. stands on a plain near an arm of the sea. It is a very neat small city, walled about in a circular form; with 4 gates, opening to the four principal streets, which meet in the center, where is a beautiful cross. All the space or quarter between the W. and S. gates, is taken up with the cathedral, the Bishop's palace, the Dean's, prebendaries, and vicars houses. The church itself is not very large, but very neat, with a high stone spire of an octagonal form, esteemed a complete piece of architecture. In the N. E. corner is a well furnished library.

A short mile to the N. is a Roman camp of a rectangular form; and about two miles farther, is Rooks-hill, upon which is still to be seen an old circular camp, which may be concluded to be Danish.

MIDHURST, 11 miles N. of Chichester, 51 from Lond. a borough town. A small rivulet, from the Arun, runs through it.

ARUNDEL, 10 miles E. of Chichester, 55 from Lond. had once a good harbour, for vessels of considerable bur-

burthen, but now much ruined by sand-banks: the river is however still of great use, and admits of barges going many miles up the county. The town is situate on the side of a hill, overlooked by the Castle, now the Duke of Norfolk's seat, on the summit. This castle is of so great antiquity, that no certain account of its foundation can be found. We however know, from authentic records, that it was famous in the time of the Saxon heptarchy. The ancient Stanes-street-cauley comes to this town out of Surrey, by Billingshurst.

BRAMBER, 48 miles from Lond. is a small village, near the river Adur, which runs down to New Shoreham, and there empties itself. This is one of the smallest boroughs in England. Here are the ruins of an ancient castle.

STEYNING, about a mile from Bramber, and 50 from Lond. is a small market and borough town, of great antiquity, and had a priory of Black-Canons, afterwards changed into a college for a dean and secular canons. It is watered by a fine stream, issuing from a spring at the foot of a hill.

BROADWATER, lies in a bottom, in the lower road from Arundel to Shoreham Ferry. In the church are some remarkable inscriptions.

SHOREHAM OLD and NEW, 56 miles from Lond. at the mouth of the Adur: the latter, being situated nearer the harbour, is much increased. This place is conveniently situated for timber, and many ships are built here.

HORSHAM, 37 miles from Lond. is a place of considerable note, the county assizes being held here once in 2 years. Here is a quarry of good stone, either for tiling or flooring.

NEWHAVEN, 66 miles from Lond. at the mouth of the Ouse, near Seaford, is a small but populous town, with a convenient harbour, made so by a large pier, from whence coals, deals, &c. are carried to Lewes, 8 miles up the river. Adjoining to this haven are very high chalk cliffs, and on the hills above are found variety of curious

In

In this haven, and on the coast from hence to New Shoreham, are found great quantities of what the people there call Strumbulo. It is black and heavy, of a bituminous quality, and burning very well, serves the poor people for fuel.

SEAFORD, between Newhaven and Beachy-head, is in the liberty of the Cinque Ports, and though but a small fishing town, is built with stone and slate, and defended by a good fort.

EAST GRINSTEAD, 12 miles from Horsham, 33 miles from Lond. once a considerable town, but now called East Grinstead the Less, to distinguish it from the market town of that name in this country.

BRIGHTHELMSTONE, 54 miles from Lond. and 8 from Lewes, is a large port between Shoreham and Newhaven. It was formerly inhabited chiefly by fishermen, who went from hence to Yarmouth, on the Norfolk coast; and there were employed in catching herrings. The situation is very fine. It is at present much resorted to in the summer season by people of fashion, for the benefit of bathing in the sea, and as one of the polite places of dissipation. From the great number of human bones dug up near this place, it is concluded that a battle was formerly fought here. Many are of opinion, that Cæsar in his expedition to Britain landed near this place. The altars of the druids have been found about this spot in great abundance.

LEWES, 49 miles from Lond. one of the chief towns in the county, for extent, populousness, and fine buildings; is situated in an open champaign country, on a rising ground, on the edge of the delightful south downs. It has 2 handsome streets, and 6 parish churches. On the river Ouse, to which it joins, are several iron mills, where cannon are cast for merchant ships, and other works of that kind carried on. The soil round it is esteemed the richest in Engl. From a windmill near this town, is a prospect of so large an extent as is scarce to be equalled in Europe. On the E. side of the town has formerly been a camp, with a castle, part of which is still remaining, from whence there is a delightful prospect,

spect, and a pleasant winding walk from the bottom to the summit. This castle and the priory near it, were founded by William de Warren, E. of Surrey, A. D. 1078. And the place is famous for a bloody battle between Hen. III. and his barons.

EASTBORNE, or EBORNE, lies under the promontory, so famous for the loss of ships, called Beachy-head, in which are several caverns made by the sea: The height of these famous cliffs is about 500 feet.

PEVENSEY is situated in a large extensive plain, called Pensley Marsh, where great numbers of cattle are constantly fed. In this place is a castle, the walls of which include nine acres, perhaps the largest area of any in Engl. It was built by Wm. the Conqueror; but in all probability on the remains of a more ancient structure, for in the ruins of the walls are still to be seen regular strata of Roman and British bricks.

BATTEL, 56 miles from Lond. so called from that decisive engagement fought near the place, between King Harold and William the Conqueror. It is at present remarkable for gunpowder, that sort made here being esteemed preferable to any other in England. The old Abbey, of which the gateway is still entire, was built by the Conqueror, on the very spot where Harold fell, as a memorial of his victory, who ordered mass to be said there for the souls of those that fell in the conflict.

HASTINGS, 63 miles from Lond. is a large town, and one of the cinque ports; it had a good harbour, which is now much choaked with sand.

RYE, 64 miles from Lond. on the edge of Kent, is a handsome town, pleasantly situated on the N. side of a hill, which affords a delightful prospect toward the sea. It is fortified and washed on 2 sides by the tide, and on the E. by the river Rother, which render it a sort of Peninsula: It is one of the cinque ports.

WINCHELSEA, 67 miles from Lond. is seated at the corner of the county. This was doubtless a very ancient town, the streets were all paved, and at right angles, so that they were divided into 32 squares or quarters. The stone work of its 3 gates are standing, though 3
E miles

miles asunder over the fields. In many places of the town are fine stone-arched vaults, in which the weavers now work, at the new manufactory of cambricks, established in this place, by means of the French prisoners that were stationed here in the late war. What the vaults could have been originally intended for, cannot possibly be known, they having been neglected and useless many hundred years, and most of them filled with rubbish; but now appear to be as good as any in the world for this business, being light and dry, and some of them large enough to hold a dozen looms. Many ruinous materials of ancient buildings are so buried, that the streets having been turned into corn-fields, the plough goes over the first floors of houses. Of 3 churches, only the chancel of one remains. It had also a monastery, the marks of which remain, built by W. de Buckingham. The castle was built for the defence of the old town, which was 2 or 3 miles from the site of the present, had 18 parish churches, and was of great consequence. It was swallowed up by the sea, A. D. 1250, and rebuilt in Edw. I. reign.

PETWORTH, 15 miles from Chichester, 47 from Lond. is a large handsome town, adorned with several elegant seats. The church is large, and contains several curious monuments of the Percys Earls of Northumberland, several of whom are here buried.

ANTIQUITIES IN SUSSEX, besides those already mentioned.

BEGHAM-ABBEY, founded by Ralph de Dene, in the reign of Hen. II.

BOXGROVE-PRIORY, was founded in the reign of Hen. I. by Robert de Haye, of Hainaker.

BODIAM-CASTLE, situated on the river Rother, was built by the Dalrywriggs, who flourished in the reign of Edw. III. It is now the seat of Sir John Webster, Bart.

AMBERLEY-CASTLE, was built by William Read, Bishop of Chichester.

HURST-

S U S S E X.

75

HURSTMONCEUX-CASTLE, stands near the Old Clær-Penfavel-coittons.

S E A T S.

The Earl of Egremont's, at Petworth.

The Duke of Norfolk's, Arundel-Castle.

The Duke of Richmond's, at Goodwood, near Chichester.

Sir Thomas Ackland, at Halmaker, 4 miles from Chichester.

STANSTEAD, belonging to the Hon. James Lumley, 7 miles from Chichester.

UP-PARK, belonging to Sir Matthew Featherston Haugh, 5 miles from Stanstead.

The Duke of Newcastle's, at Halland, 6 miles from Lewes.

The D. of Dorset's, at Buckhurst, 16 M. from Lewes.

The E. of Winchelsea's, at the town of that name.

The E. of Thanet's, at Bolbrook, 4 miles from Horsham.

ASHBURNHAM-PLACE, belonging to the Earl of Ashburnham, 8 miles from Hastings.

COWDRY, belonging to L. Montague, near Midhurst.

Lord Abergavenny's, at Earidge, 8 miles from East Grinstead.

Lord Irwin's, at Hills, near Horsham.

FURLE, the seat of ----- Gage, Esq; near Lewes.

K E N T

IS bounded by Suffex on the S. W. by Surrey on the W. by the Streights of Dover on the S. E. by the Downs, on the E. and on the N. by the Thames, which separates it from Essex. It is about 60 miles in length, 30 in breadth, and 160 in circumference; contains five lathes, 68 hundreds, two cities, 408 parish churches, 30 considerable towns, 1180 villages, and about 1,248,000 acres.

It is distinguished into three parts, each of which differs, both with regard to air and soil; the eastern or upper part, contiguous to the Downs and the mouth of the Thames; the midland parts near London, and the lower parts, about Romney-Marsh, called the Weald of Kent.

This county abounds with plantations of hops, fields of corn, pastures, and woods of oak, beech, and chestnuts, and fine orchards of cherries and apples. The principal rivers are the Medway, the Darent and Stour. The inhabitants, who are said to have been the first converts to Christianity, glory in the defence they made for their liberties, against several invaders of Britain; fewer marks of conquest, and greater privileges being found here than in other counties.

CANTERBURY, 56 miles from Lond. is the chief city of this county, and the metropolitan see of all England. Canterbury Castle was built a little before the conquest, with an intention, perhaps, to repel the invasion and depredations of the Danes. The cathedral is a noble pile of Gothic architecture, and had, before the reformation, 37 altars. Seven kings have been interred in this church, and St. Augustin, with the 7 archbishops that succeeded him, lie in one vault. Here was the shrine of Thomas a Becket, so famous for its riches offered by votaries and pilgrims from all parts. Erasmus, who saw it, says, that the chapel glittered all over with jewels of inestimable value, and that gold was one of the meanest treasures of this shrine. Among the ruins of the Roman and Saxon buildings, and of many religious houses, are the walls of a chapel, said to have been a Christian temple before St. Augustin's time. On the N. of the city, at Dungeon-hill, are the ruins of a castle, supposed to have been built during the wars between the Danes and Normans. Two gates of the monastery, built by Ethelbert King of Kent, about the year 600, at the request of Austin the monk, are still remaining. Here are 6 wards, denominated from its 6 gates, 15 parish churches, and 7 hospitals.

ROCHES-

ROCHESTER, 30 miles from Canterbury, and the same distance from Lond. lies in the valley on the E. side of the Medway, and, except Canterbury, is the oldest see in England. Its cathedral is said to have been built by Ethelbert King of Kent. Here was formerly a wooden bridge over the Medway; but in the reign of Edw. III. it was taken down, and one of stone erected, consisting of 25 arches, esteemed one of the finest in Eng. Rochester appears to have been a Roman station, from the Roman Watling-street running through the town. It had a castle, built by Odo, Bishop of Bajeux in Normandy; but it is now fallen to ruin.

GADS-HILL, within 3 miles of Rochester, famous for the frolics played here by Hen. V. when Prince of Wales, and supposed by Shakespeare to be the scene of Sir John Falstaff's robberies; for offences of which sort it has indeed always been noted. It was at this place that Nicks, about 1676, committed a robbery at four in the morning, stopped an hour at Gravesend; afterwards baited his Horse; and was upon York bowling-green about eight in the evening. This he proved upon his trial, and was thereby acquitted, though the prosecutor swore to the man, the place, and the time.

CHATHAM is, as it were, a suburb to Rochester, and perhaps the compleatest naval arsenal in the world. It was built by Charles II. and has since been the station of the royal navy. The dock was indeed begun by Queen Elizabeth, but received considerable improvements from her successors. At Chatham also is reposit-ed that superb fund of naval charity, called the Chest of Chatham, instituted for the relief of the sick and wounded seamen, in the service of the crown.

MAIDSTONE, 9 miles from Rochester, and 38 from Lond. is a large populous town. Its chief trade is linen and thread, and in the country adjacent are many plantations of hops. Here is a fine stone bridge over the Medway, which washes this town; and as the tide flows up to the place, the river is navigable for barges and small vessels of 50 or 60 tons burthen.

ROMNEY, OLD and NEW; the former, which lies a little to the S. W. of the latter, was a large town, now of no note. The New Town, which is 71 miles from Lond. and one of the Cinqueports, situated on a high gravelly hill, near the middle of the marsh, is completely built, and well inhabited. Its chief trade is grazing of cattle in that extensive level of rich pasture, called Romney-Marsh, which at several successive periods has been inned from the sea. This marsh is computed to be 14 miles long and 8 broad, including the adjacent marshes of Walland and Gulford; and has two towns, 19 parishes, and 44,200 acres of the richest pasture in England.

HITHE, 13 m. from Romney, 69 from Lond. one of the Cinqueports, tho' it can at present hardly be called a port, being shut up with sand banks. In a vault under the church is a surprising collection of bones and skulls of a gigantic size, placed in as good order as books in a library, with an inscription, denoting that they are the remains of the Danes, killed in a battle near this place, before the Norman conquest. The pile is 28 feet in length, 6 in breadth, and 8 in height. Near it, among other natural curiosities, are very hard sorts of stones, most of which are replete with forms of cockles and other kinds of shell-fish; but not the least appearance of their having ever been really shells, this terrestrial mimicry of shell fish consisting of nothing more than the common substance of the stone. Here is a fine paved military way extending to Canterbury, which evidently appears to be the work of the Romans; it is called Stony-street. At a small distance is a castle, on the declivity of a hill, containing ten acres; it is a noble piece of antiquity, and is thought to be the Portus Lemanis of the Romans; which is far from being improbable, as the sea doubtless came up thus far, and as the remains of the walls contain many Roman bricks, and a very remarkable strong cement.

DOVER, 6 miles from Deal, and 72 from Lond. another of the Cinqueports, is built under a ridge of chalky cliffs, somewhat in the shape of a semicircle which form
a kind

a kind of bay or harbour. One of the streets is called Snaregate, from the dreadful rocks of chalk that hang over it. At the S. E. entrance of the town, are the remains of an hospital, founded by Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent. On the pier of Dover King Henry VIII. expended 80,000*l.* for making a bulwark, which from Arcliff ran far out into the sea to the eastward. Sir John Thompson, parson of St. James's in Dover, made the draught, and proposed to the King the repairing the harbour and making the pier, which was begun in 1533, and was compiled of two rows of main posts, and great piles of 25 or 26 feet in length, which were let into holes hewn in the rocks, or were shod with iron, and driven down into the chalky ground; the posts and piles were fastened together with iron bands, bolts, &c. and the interstices filled with great chalk-stones, beach, &c. but the bottom was all great rocks of stone, of twenty tons each, brought from Folkestone thither, on frames of timber supported by empty casks on the water at a small expence; by the contrivance of one John Young, to whom the king granted a pension for his ingenuity. The pier was not finished by 350 feet so far as its foundation went, which was called the Molehead, and was made of rocks brought from a place called Hark-cliff, or the Castle-key, and Folkestone.

DOVER CASTLE is situated upon the southern end of that long ridge of rocks or steep cliffs, which run from Deal to that opening which forms Dover harbour, and receives the little river into the sea. Instead of attempting to describe these cliffs, we shall recal to the reader's remembrance, Shakespeare's beautiful lines in his tragedy of King Lear.

" There is a cliff, whose high and bending head
 " Looks fearfully on the confined deep---
 " How dizzy 'tis to cast one's eyes so low!
 " The crows and choughs that wing the midway air,
 " Shew scarce so gross as beetles. Half way down
 " Hangs one that gathers samphire: dreadful trade!
 " Methinks he seems no bigger than his head.

" The fishermen that walk upon the beach
 " Appear like mice; and yon tall anchoring bark
 " Diminish'd to her cock; her cock, a buoy
 " Almost too small for sight. The murmuring surge,
 " That on th' unnumber'd idle pebbles chafes,
 " Cannot be heard so high. I'll look no more,
 " Lest my brain turn, and the deficient sight
 " Topple down headlong."

Dover Castle is said to contain 35 acres of land, and lays claim to great antiquity: old writings say, that it was built by Henry II. about the year 1156. It has been always esteemed to be a fortress of great consequence, and was by the Saxons deemed the key to the kingdom; but it is too high to hurt any ship at sea, and by land could not stand a formal siege half a day. When William the Conqueror had an eye upon this kingdom, he made Harold swear to deliver him up this castle; the well, which is 360 feet deep, is said to be the work of Julius Cæsar. It is called by the name of Mr. Watson's cellar, and is lined to the bottom with free-stone. The remains of the royal palace, the chapel, the stables, and offices here, shew the whole to have been very grand. Here is to be seen a great curiosity, commonly called Queen Elizabeth's pocket pistol; it is a brass cannon, supposed to be the longest in the world, being 22 feet, and was presented to that princess by the states of Utrecht. One part of the fortification is a circular work, in which stands an old church, said to have been built by Lucius, the first Christian King in Britain, out of some of the Roman ruins; and indeed the middle tower shews plain remains of Roman work; it is in form of a cross, and the middle tower square; but the stone windows are more modern. The greatest curiosity is the Roman pharos, or watch-tower. On another rock, over against the castle, and almost as high, are the remains of another old watch-tower, called Bredinaston, and by the vulgar, Devil's Drop, from the strength of the mortar:

Cock-boat.

Below

Below the Castle, under its steepest cliff near the sea, is a strong fort, and another opposite to it, on the W. side of the harbour.

SANDWICH, 10 m. from Canterbury, 67 from London, the last of the Cinqueports, lies between Ramsgate and the South-foreland, at the mouth of the Stour. It was formerly walled round, but now only on the N. and W. sides, with a rampart and ditch on the other. Edward the Confessor resided here a great while. Near this place Cæsar probably landed, on both his descents upon Britain; it being more likely than Deal, and better answers the description he gives of the place. It suffered much in the wars with the Danes, &c. being the place where King Canute, in 1015, inhumanly slit the noses, and cut off the hands of such English as were given to Swain his father for hostages. In 1217 it was burnt by the French. In 1457, the French again plundered and burnt this town, landing 1500 men, and killing the mayor and other officers. Before the gates are two Roman tumuli; and on the S. side by the shore, are 6 large broad Celtic tumuli, at equal distances. In the way to Deal we pass by

SANDOWN CASTLE, built together with Deal, and Walmer Castles, by Hen. VIII. to defend the coast when he apprehended an invasion, after he had thrown off the Pope's yoke, and provoked the Emperor by the divorce of Queen Catherine. It consists of four lunets of very thick stone arched work, with many port holes for great guns. In the middle is a great round tower with a cistern on the top of it, and underneath an arched cavern, bomb-proof. The whole is encompassed by a fosse, over which is a draw-bridge.

QUEENBOROUGH, 45 miles from Lond. is a borough town, on the W. side of the Island of Sheppey, on the bank of the Medway.

SHEPPEY ISLAND, 7 miles from Rochester, is 21 miles round, very fruitful in corn, and always feeds a multitude of sheep, from which it takes its name. The common way to it from Kent is by King's Ferry: The salt marshes in this Island produce abundance of marine plants,

plants, and are visited by botanists in the summer season. In this island, on the N. side, numbers of curious fossils and shells are found in the cliffs, and on the beach.

SHEPNESS, 2 miles from Queenborough, 12 from Rochester, 3 from Blackstake, 37 from Lond. is a town consisting of 3 clean streets, and has a regular fortification with a line of heavy cannon. Here is also a yard for building ships, which are generally 5th and 6th rates, and the channel from hence to Rochester affords a safe station for ships. On the 2 shores of the Medway are 2 castles, Upnor and Gillingham, which defend all the ships riding above them.

BROMLEY, 10 miles from Lond. remarkable for the palace of the Bishop of Rochester, and a college or hospital for 20 clergymen's widows.

ELTHAM, 7 miles from Lond. a pleasant little town, full of good houses. The ancient family of the Vescis had here their capital mansion, which Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham, afterwards converted into a palace, and gave it to Eleanor, consort to Edw. I. It is now a seat of Sir John Shaw, Bart.

SEVENOAK, or SENNOCK, from 7 tall oaks formerly near it, is 23 miles from Lond. and famous for ancient battles. It has an hospital and school, both well endowed.

DARTFORD, 16 miles from Lond. is a handsome large town, situated on the river Darent. The first paper mill in England was built here, also the first for smelting bar iron. Edw. II. built a nunnery here, which Hen. VIII. converted into a palace. In the heath and fields adjacent to Carysford, are several caves from 10 to 20 fathom deep, narrow at the mouth and wide at the bottom; said to have been receptacles for the wives and children, and effects of the Saxons, whilst they were at war with the Britons.

TUNBRIDGE, or town of bridges; the river Ton, and 4 other streams of the Medway, which rise in the Weald, run hither; over each of which is a stone bridge, 30 miles from Lond. has at present the ruins of a castle, which shew it to have been very large. The Castle-hill affords

affords a beautiful prospect of the town and adjacent country. The river Medway is made navigable up to it, since which the town has flourished: The priory, of which there still are considerable remains, was founded by Richard de Clare, Earl of Brionie. Five miles from Tunbridge town, are **TUNBRIDGE WELLS**; much frequented on account of their mineral waters, to which the people of fashion resort as to a place of gaiety and dissipation. These wells are at the bottom of the walks, which are handsomely paved; on one side is the assembly-room, the coffee-rooms, the booksellers shops, jewellers, milliners; with toys, china, and Tunbridge ware, which is made here to great perfection. But of holly, cherry-tree and sycamore; of which a great quantity grows hereabout. On the other side of the walks are coffee-rooms, another assembly-room, tavern, and a few houses for lodgings. The music gallery is in the middle of the walks, which are beautifully shaded with trees: a piazza extends from the upper end to the bottom, quite down to the Wells. The houses and lodgings are mostly on the hills contiguous, called Mount Sion, Mount Ephraim, and Mount Pleasant. The high rocks are about a mile from the walks, of which there are a vast number adjoining to each other, several of them 70 or 80 feet high; and at many places there are cliffs and cavities, that lead thro' them by narrow dark passages; and their being situated among the woods, by a little winding brook, makes them afford a most retired, gloomy and delightful scene.

LENHAM, is a little town at the source of the Len, a rivulet, which falls into the Medway at Maidstone, 48 miles from Lond. and 9 from Maidstone.

SITTINGBURN, 40 miles from Lond. is a neat well built village, and considerable as a thoroughfare to Dover. The Red Lion Inn is remarkable for an entertainment given to Hen. V. and his retinue, on their return from France, the whole expence of which was no more than 9s and 9d.

WYE, 10 miles from Lenham, 57 from Lond. stands on the river Stour, over which it has a bridge. Its church,

church, which has not been long rebuilt, is a stately edifice.

ASHFORD, 10 miles from Hithe, 57 from Lond. stands in the road from London to Hithe, at a ford over a rivulet, near the head of the Stour. Here is a large church, which was formerly collegiate.

We shall finish the topography of Kent, with a survey of the principal places on the coast.

LYD in Romney Marsh, 70 miles from Lond. is pretty populous, and the chief town in Weymharch, in which is Dungeness, well known to sailors.

FOLKSTONE, 4 miles from Hithe, 74 from Lond. one of the cinque ports, has a harbour for small ships: here are the ruins of a watch-tower, on a hill called Castle Hill. The antiquity of this town is sufficiently proved by the great number of Roman coins, and bricks, which are frequently found here.

SANDGATE CASTLE, built by Hen. VIII. lies on the sea shore, a little to the S. of Folkstone, has many good houses in it, and 16 guns or more to defend the fishing craft from insults of privateers, in time of war.

DEAL, 4 miles from Sandwich, 72 from Lond. is a handsome large town. Here ships generally stop, if homeward bound, to dispatch letters, and notify their arrival; if outward bound, to take in fresh provision. This town is now become very populous, from the resort of seamen lying in the Downs. It is defended on the N. by Sandown Castle, and on the S. by Deal Castle; at a small distance is Walmer Castle, in each of which are many things remarkable. These three were built by Hen. VIII. Hence to Dover there is a ridge of rocks, stretching 7 miles along the shore, which abounds with samphire.

ISLE OF THANET, about 9 miles in length from E. to W. and 8 miles from N. to S. contains 10 parishes, but only 7 parish churches. The lower side of the island, on the S. and S. W. abounds in pasturage, but it lies low and marshy, and the inhabitants of it are much subject to agues. On the upper part, to the E. and N. it is separated from the ocean by a high perpendicular

dicular cliff of chalk. In some of the low marshes near the sea, a large field opens to the observation of the curious botanist; many rare and valuable plants being found there. The prodigious quantity of fennel, which grows wild, forms in some places near the sea, hedges of almost a mile in length. If the value of the honey which is produced here was known, the inhabitants would certainly take care to procure more of it. It probably receives its peculiar flavor from the great abundance of wild thyme on the banks, and in the hedge-rows.

MARGATE, or ST. JOHN'S, is situated on the N. side of the island, and is a member of the town and port of Dover, to which it is subject in all matters of civil jurisdiction. It lies 72 miles S. E. of Lond. The principal street is near a mile in length, and built on an easy descent, by which means the upper part is clean and dry, but the lower end much otherwise. It is difficult to determine at what time Margate pier was first built; but as, since the innings of the level on the S. side of this island, the sea has borne harder on the E. and N. sides, so that the land on each side the creek was, in process of time quite washed away by the sea; the inhabitants were obliged to build a pier, to prevent their town from being oversown. This pier was at first but small, and went but a little way from the land; but the cliffs still continuing to wash away, it has been by degrees enlarged to what it now is. This pier is maintained and preserved by certain payments for all goods and commodities shipped or landed. The bathing-rooms are not large, but convenient. There are three of these rooms which employ eleven machines till near the time of high water, which, at the ebb of the tide, sometimes runs two or three hundred yards into the bay. The sands are so safe and clean, and every convenience for bathing is carried to so great perfection, that it is no wonder this place should be frequented by such multitudes of people, who bathe in the sea either for health or pleasure. The boys usually leave Margate on Fridays or Saturdays, and London on Wednesdays or Thursdays. Passengers pay 2s. 6d. They sometimes make the passage in eight hours, and

and at others in two or three days, just as the winds and tides happen to be for or against them. The assembly-rooms here is part of the new-inn; it stands on the parade, and commands a fine view of the harbour and roads; and a barn is the play-house. When the tide is ebb'd, many persons go on the sands, to collect pebbles, shells, seaweeds, &c. which, although of no great value, are esteemed as matters of curiosity by those to whom such objects are not familiar. These sands extend for some miles along the shore, quite smooth and dry, at low water, and may be pass'd with safety 6 hours in the day. Here are those venerable monuments of antiquity, the banks of Hacken Down, or Field of Battle-Axes. There are two tumuli, or barrowes of earth, the tombs of some of the chief officers killed in a bloody battle, fought on this spot, between the Saxons, English, and the Danes, in the reign of King Ethelwolf, in the year 853. In the LIGHT HOUSE, which is a strong octagon building of flint, on an eminence near the cliff, on the point of the NORTH FORELAND, a fire of coals is kept blazing all night, on the top of it, for the direction of mariners.

RAMSGATE, in this isle, is a very neat sea-port town, with many good houses, but no great trade. The new pier, now building there, attracts the admiration of all strangers, being the finest of its kind in England, or perhaps in the world. It is built chiefly of white Purbeck stone, and extends itself into the ocean near 800 feet, before it forms an angle. Its breadth at top is 26 feet, including a strong parapet, which runs all along the outside of it. Its depth admits of a gradual increase from 18 to 36 feet. The front to the S. is of a polygonal figure. The angles, of which there will be 5 on a side, of 160 feet each, joined to the works already carried on in straight lines, complete the whole design, leaving an entrance of 200 feet into a noble and capacious harbour. This is intended as a place of refuge for ships to run into in hard gales of wind from S. E. to E. N. E. when they are exposed to the utmost danger in the Downs. At Minster, in this parish, is a very large cavern, cut out of the chalk, and

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and supported by pillars of the same: it being esteemed curious, many strangers think it worth a visit.

FEVERSHAM, 48 miles from London, has a bay or creek from the Swale, very useful to commerce. Near this place are some ancient pits, 100 feet deep, very narrow at the top, but for what use is uncertain. About half a mile from the town, there appears in the cliff, a stratum of shells of the white conchites, in a greenish sand, not above 2 feet from the beach. The abbey was founded by King Stephen, A. D. 1148, and now belongs to the Marquis of Rockingham. It is so ancient a town that it was a royal demesne in 802, and in Kenulfe's charter, called the King's Little Town. King Athelstan in 903 summoned a great council here, in which he enacted several laws. Here James II. was stopped on board a smack, when he was sailing away to France, on the arrival of the Prince of Orange.

MILTON, 10 miles from Rochester, 42 from London. The church is near a mile from the town, which has a port for barges, but is so hid among the creeks of that called the E. Swale, that it is hardly to be seen, though it is a large town, with a considerable market for corn, fruit, and other provisions; but it is most remarkable for the quantity and goodness of its oysters.

GRAVESEND, 22 miles from London, is a populous place, full of seamen: the church is one of the fifty churches built by act of parliament.

WOOLWICH, 3 miles from Greenwich, 9 from London, is reckoned, in point of seniority, the mother dock of the royal navy, and to have furnished as many ships of war as any two docks in England. The whole place is taken up with it; the gun-yard is called the warren or park, where they make trial of their guns, mortars, &c. 7 or 8000 pieces of ordnance have been laid up here at one time for ships and batteries, together with stores of all kinds in great plenty: the largest ships may ride here safely, even at low water: a guard-ship generally rides here, especially in time of war: its church is also called one of the 50 new ones.

GREENWICH,

GREENWICH, 5 miles from London. On the top of the hill in the park Charles II. erected a royal observatory, for the use of that celebrated astronomer, Mr. John Flamsteed, and furnished it with mathematical instruments. The Earl of Northampton built an hospital here, and liberally endowed it; and Greenwich particularly boasts that the immortal Queen Elizabeth was born there, in the royal palace erected by Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, which was enlarged by Henry VII. and completed by Henry VIII. who frequently resided there. Charles II. pulled it down and began another, which King William appropriated for a royal hospital for decayed seamen, who have served their king and country. This sumptuous edifice is scarce to be paralleled in the world: its noble hall is finely painted by Sir James Thornhill: there is also a fine statue of King George II. on a pedestal in the area fronting its noble terrace by the Thames, and a most elegant chapel lately erected. The number of disabled or superannuated seamen maintained here are about 1000; the several benefactions to this noble charity, hung up at the entrance of the hall, amount to 58,209l. besides the late Earl of Derwentwater's estate of near 6000l. a year, voted by parliament to this use. The heath near this town, called Blackheath, perhaps from its black soil, has been the scene of several actions with rebels, as well as the rendezvous of royal armies. On the S. side of it is Morden college, for the reception of 40 decayed merchants.

CHARLTON, on the N. side of the heath, is a pleasant well built village, with one of the finest churches in the county, famous for a disorderly fair in October, when the mob take all kinds of liberties, wearing horns on their heads, in memory, as vulgar tradition has it, of King John's intrigue with the wife of a miller, who caught them in the fact, and threatening death, the King gave the husband all the land from thence to Cuckold's point; and established a fair as a condition of his holding the land, at which fair horns were to be sold and worn, as a memorial of the grant for ever.

DEPTFORD,

DEPTFORD is the first town from London, in the county of Kent, which, tho' it has no market, is divided into upper and lower towns, and has 2 churches, the newest of which is one of the 50 new churches, built by the commissioners; but what it is more remarkable for, is the noble dock, lately much enlarged; it has a wet dock of 2 acres for ships, and another of an acre and an half for masts, with all necessary offices, &c. Here is a corporation, for the benefit of seamen and navigation, in the form of a college, called Trinity-house.

ANTIQUITIES IN KENT.

MALLING ABBEY was founded by Edmond, brother to Athelstan, A. D. 944.

RECVLVER ABBEY, of which the towers still remain, was built by one Bassa, a priest, A. D. 669.

ALLINGTON CASTLE was built by Sir Stephen de Porchester, about the year 1282.

HEVER CASTLE, built by Thomas de Hever, in the reign of Edward III.

COWLING CASTLE, built by Lord Cobham, in 1381.

SALTWOOD CASTLE was built by the Romans. In 1036, Halden, a noble Saxon, gave it to Egelnorth, archbishop of Canterbury; in process of time it came to Sir Brook Bridges, Bart. in whose family it still continues.

A FORTIFICATION near Woolwich, on the river Ravensborn, the area of which is enclosed with treble ramparts and ditches, very high and deep, near 2 miles in compass; supposed to be the work of the Romans.

A HARD FLOOR OR PAVEMENT near Himton, on the Medway. It lies about 6 yards before the surface of the ground, and is composed of shell or shell-like stones, an inch deep, and several yards over: though they are of the conchite sort, and resemble the testaceous kind of sea fish, yet it does not appear, that any floods from the river ever reached so far as this place.

KEITH-COTY-HOUSE, a monument of large stones near Aylesford, some pitched on one end, others lying across; supposed to be the tombs of Kentegern and Horbus, two Danish princes, killed here in battle.

RICHBOROUGH

RICHBOROUGH CASTLE, near Sandwich, is a most noble remnant of Roman antiquity, built in the time of Theodosius. It appears to have had two gates; a large one in the middle of the western wall, and a lesser in the northern: this gate, having within a century had the figure of a woman's head over it in stone, which was imagined by some to be that of Queen Bertha, was called the Maiden Gate. The walls on three sides are pretty entire; and the old walls of a tower, built with flints and long bricks, cemented with a sort of sand, which by time is become as hard as stone. Roman coins are often found here. In the way from hence to Sandwich, upon an eminence, is the remainder of an amphitheatre, made of turf, supposed to have been for the exercise or diversion of the Roman garrison. Before Sandwich gate are two Roman tumuli, and to the S. on the sea shore, are six large Celtic tumuli, at equal distances.

SEATS.

KNOWLE, near Sevenoak, belonging to the Duke of Dorset.

HOTHFIELD, near Ashford, belonging to the Earl of Thanet.

The Earl of Winchelsea's, at Entwell.

LEES COURT, 6 miles from Canterbury, Ld. Sondes.

Earl Stanhope's, at Chevening, near Sevenoak.

CORHAM HALL, 6 miles from Chatham, Earl of Darnley.

Earl of Jersey's, at Weltram, 5 miles from Sevenoaks.

Earl of Aylesford's, at Aylesford.

Earl of Dartmouth's, on Blackheath.

Earl Cowper's, at Wingham, near Sandwich.

HEWER CASTLE, 6 miles from Tunbridge, Earl of Waldegrave.

Earl of Egmont's, at Charlton, near Blackheath.

LEEDS CASTLE, 5 miles from Maidstone, belonging to the Hon. Robert Fairfax, Esq; was built by the noble family of Crevequer, and forfeited by Robert, son of Hamon de Crevequer, for his adhering to the Barons.

LINSTED LODGE, near Feverham, Lord Teynham.

FAIRLAWN,

MIDDLESEX.

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FAIRLAWN, near Tunbridge, belonging to Ld. Vane.

PENSHURST, near Tunbridge, William Perry, Esq.

BROMLEY HOUSE, a seat of the Bishop of Rochester.

MOTE PARK, near Maidstone, belonging to Lord Romney.

SAY'S COURT, near Deptford, belonging to Mr. Evelyn.

Sir Gregory Page's, at Blackheath.

Sir John Shaw's, and Sir W. Fytche's, near Eltham.

Earl of Chatham's, at Hayes, near Bramley.

CLEVE, near Margate, belonging to Robert Fuller, Esq.

MIDDLESEX

HAS its name from its situation, the middle between the three kingdoms of the E. W. and S. Saxons, by which they were surrounded. It is bounded on the S. by the Thames, which divides it from Surry; on the E. by the river Lea, and Mere Ditch, which divide it from Essex; on the W. by the river Colne and the Shire Ditch, which separate it from Buckinghamshire; and on the N. by Hertfordshire. It is about 21 miles in length, 15 in breadth, and 80 in circumference; contains the two vast cities of London and Westminster, 73 parishes, and is divided into six hundreds and two liberties.

LONDON is the metropolis of England, the capital of all the British dominions, and the most celebrated city in the whole world, for the number and wealth of its inhabitants, its universal commerce, its establishments for learning, and its numerous foundations of charity. It was originally a Roman city, and founded about the year 49. It is situated on the N. side of the Thames, with a gentle rise from that noble river, and stands on a gravelly loamy soil, which greatly conduces to the health of its numerous inhabitants. It is encompassed with gardens, plains, beautiful elevations, and with the

with the magnificent country houses of its citizens. No city in the world is better supplied with lights, the allowance for the public lamps, exclusive of all private ones, amount to 10,000l. a year. The greatest inconvenience of London is the irregularity of her streets, the narrowness of some of them, and the obscurity thence resulting, in which most of her public edifices stand; but this is much remedied by the improvements that have been and are daily making. Even St. Paul's is not seen to advantage, because of the croud of buildings that surround it. This was not the fault of the builder, who formed a plan, after the great fire of London in 1666, which, had it been followed, would not only have made this church conspicuous on all sides, but have placed every other public building in a just point of view, and given a regularity to the whole city that must have been extremely beautiful. All the streets, according to him, should have been laid out in right lines, with the churches in the several intersections; and the halls of the companies that have them, about fifty in number, were all to have fronted the Thames, with a continued key before them. As it would require more room than can be allowed in this epitome, to describe the several parts of the city, we shall only give a short account of some of the public buildings.

ST. PAUL'S cathedral is justly esteemed the most sumptuous and magnificent Protestant church in the world. This structure is supposed to have been founded in the year 610, by Ethelbert, the Saxon King, on or near the place where formerly there was a temple of Diana. It has several times suffered greatly by fire and lightning; but by the general conflagration in 1666, it was entirely destroyed, and afterwards restored from a model of Sir Christopher Wren. It is built of fine Portland stone, in form of a cross, resembling St. Peter's at Rome. The ascent to the N. portico is by 12 steps of black marble, the dome of which is supported by 6 very spacious columns, and over them the King's arms with the regalia, supported by two angels, under whose feet are a lion and an unicorn. The ascent to the S. portico is

is by 25 steps, and over the door-case is a phoenix with its wings expanded, in flames, and under it the word *Resurgam*. The W. portico (to which there is an ascent by elegant stairs, so broad, that at least 80 men a-breast may mount the first) is supported by 12 columns, and above them 8 others support a gallery, on which the history of St. Paul's conversion is boldly carved in bas-relief. The roof of the choir is supported by 6 spacious pillars; and the roof of the church by 2 ranges, consisting of 20 more. The cupola has 8, and there are 2 very large ones at the W. end, all of them adorned with pilasters of the Corinthian and Composite orders. An elegant balcony of iron, called the whispering gallery, runs round the bottom of the cupola within; where the beating of a watch, or a whisper, is to be heard quite across, from the opposite points of the diameter: and the flap of the door resembles the report of a cannon. This cupola is finely painted in *chiaro oscuro* by Sir James Thornhill; containing in 8 compartments, the principal events in the life of St. Paul. The floor of the choir is of marble, and that within the rails of porphyry, finely polished. The altar-piece has 4 noble pilasters, finely painted and veined with gold, in imitation of lapis lazuli, with enrichments and capitals double gilt. The height from the ground to the top of the cross over the dome, is 340 feet; the outward diameter of the dome 145 feet, the interior diameter 108.

2. ST. MARY, LE BOW is an elegant structure; its greatest ornament, the steeple, is said to excel that of any other church in Europe.

3. ST. BRIDES is a very beautiful structure, with a most elegant steeple, built by Sir Christopher Wren.

4. ST. STEPHEN WALBROOKE was built by Sir Christopher Wren. It is thought that Italy itself cannot produce a modern structure equal to this, in taste, proportion and beauty within. At entering, it has a very striking effect, every part coming at once to the eye. In short, it is one of the happy productions of Sir Christopher Wren's great genius, without a strict observance of the rules of art.

5. THE

5. **THE TEMPLE CHURCH** is one of the most elegant Gothic structures, formerly belonging to the Knights Templars of Jerusalem. Here are many remarkable ancient monuments, particularly of nine Knights, in marble in their full proportions: six of them are cross-legged, and therefore supposed to have been engaged in a croisade to the holy land.

1. **THE TOWER** was formerly a royal palace, but at present the chief fortress of the city. Here are kept the artillery, and a magazine of small arms for 60,000 men. Here is a grand horse armory, where, among others, are 15 figures of the English Kings on horseback, dressed in their proper armour: together with a silver armour of John of Gaunt seven or eight feet high. Here are kept the ancient records of the Court of Westminster; the jewels and ornaments of the crown, and other regalia; the board of ordnance; a mint for coining money; and dens for foreign beasts, &c.

2. **THE ROYAL EXCHANGE** is the finest building of the kind in the world. It was first erected by Sir Thomas Gresham; but that building being destroyed by the fire in 1666, another more large and elegant was finished in 1669. It is 203 feet long without, and 171 broad; and the quadrangle within is 144 feet long, and 117 broad, having piazzas all round, supported with 28 columns; to shelter the merchants from the weather. Over these piazzas are 24 niches, 18 of which are filled with statues of the Kings and Queens, from Edward I. to his present Majesty. In the center of the court, on a marble pedestal 8 feet high, is the statue of Charles II. in a Roman dress.

3. **LONDON BRIDGE**, which connects the city to Southwark, was originally a wooden fabric. In the year 1209, the stone bridge was finished, with a chapel erected on the ninth pier. Before the year 1600, a row of houses was erected on each side, which formed upon this bridge a regular street. In 1756, these houses were all taken down, the bridge repaired and in a manner re-edified, at an immense expence, which may be said to have been thrown away, as nothing less than an absolute new

new bridge can remove the nuisance of the sterlings, which, during the ebb form so many tremendous cata-racts and foaming eddies, to the great danger of navigation, and the continual loss of lives.

4. THE MONUMENT is the noblest modern column in the world, and was erected to perpetuate the memory of the dreadful conflagration in 1666. It is 15 feet diameter, and 202 feet high from the ground, the exact distance of the very spot from it, where the fire broke out. It stands on a pedestal, 40 feet high and 21 square, adorned with ingenious emblems in basso-relievo. Within the pillar is a curious geometrical winding staircase of 345 steps, with iron rails all the way up to a fair iron balcony. It is finely fluted on the outside; from the pedestal to the gallery, in the center of which rises a cone 32 feet high, crowned with a flaming urn of gilt brass.

THE MANSION HOUSE, a very grand structure for the residence of the Lord Mayor. This building by no means deserves the abuse that has been thrown upon it. The circumscribed area upon which it is erected, is the cause why it makes no better an appearance; and the necessity imposed upon the architect, of placing an Egyptian hall in an English house, is the reason why those heavy loads of stone appear upon the roof; which co-operating with the hole it stands in, seems to have pressed the whole building into the earth. The apartments are noble, but dark, owing to its being crowded with houses. At some future time, when the heavy loads at the top shall be taken off, and a broad street opened in front, this edifice will be viewed to the honour of the architect. The first stone of this edifice was laid in 1739, and it was finished in 1753, at the expence of 42,638l. 18s. 8d.

6. GUILDHALL, the town-house, erected in 1411, 153 feet in length, 50 in breadth, and 55 in height; adorned with the portraitures of several of our Kings, Queens, and Judges. To these are added two ridiculous figures of giants, which originally had the honour to embellish a Lord Mayor's shew; but now serve to disgrace this venerable pile of building. Before the fire
of

of London, 1666, instead of the present spacious King's-street, the avenues leading from Cheapside to Guildhall, were, St. Laurence's and Ironmonger-lanes. At the West end of the Hall is placed a white marble statue of Alderman Beckford, as large as life, in the attitude he stood when he made his famous reply to the King, in 1770; in which year, during his mayoralty, Mr. Beckford died.

7. SION COLLEGE was founded by Dr. White's last will in 1627, for the use of the London clergy, who are constituted a corporation, by the Name of the President and Fellows of Sion College. Here is a public library and alms-houses.

8. THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, is a large and magnificent structure, erected in 1682, for the more effectually preventing quacks from practising physic. The Physicians were incorporated by charter from Hen. VIII. in 1519. They are also to search and inspect all medicines, and to examine all persons to be admitted to the practice of physic.

9. DOCTORS COMMONS is a commodious structure, divided into several courts, and a college of Civilians, whose faculty is of great antiquity. It is composed of several courts and offices, which were formerly held in different parts of the city, but are here united in a collegiate manner. From the respective practitioners dining together in common, originated the appellation of Doctors Commons.

THE TWO TEMPLES, distinguished by the Inner and Middle Temple, were anciently the dwellings of two religious orders; namely the Knights Templars, and the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. These buildings have each a spacious hall, with very pleasant gardens on the banks of the Thames.

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL, was formerly a house of Grey-Friars, but now a royal foundation, founded by Edw. VI. for the education of children of poor citizens of both sexes. A mathematical school was founded in 1673 by King Charles II. from which 10 boys are annually apprenticed to masters of ships, for the increase of navi-

navigation. The benefactors who have given lands and money to the hospital, are too numerous to be mentioned. In 1729, by the account of disbursements it appeared, that the sum of 1105*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* had been expended for the support of the hospital for that year.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL formerly belonged to the priory of St. Bartholomew, in Smithfield, founded in the reign of Hen. I. about 1102. This priory and hospital being dissolved by Hen. VIII. he restored the hospital, in the last year of his reign, with an endowment of 500 marks annually. In the year 1720, a subscription was entered into for rebuilding this hospital in the form of a quadrangle. It has of late years been completed, and is esteemed one of the most pleasing structures in London.

BETHLAM, or BEDLAM HOSPITAL, a stately fabric for the reception of lunatics, was rebuilt in 1675, except the two wings which were added about 40 years since. On a pediment over the great gate, are the figures of two lunatics in reclining postures, one representing raving, the other melancholy madness, which are much admired. They were executed by Mr. Cibber, father to the late poet laureate of that name.

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL, which was opened in 1751, for the reception also of lunatics, was designed as an improvement on Bedlam Hospital, and is amply supported by private subscription. The building is extremely plain, and stands in Upper Moorfields, in the parish of St. Luke, from which it derives its name.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY, a truly venerable pile, in which most of the British monarchs have had their scepters and their sepulchres. The original building is said to have been erected before the year 610, on the spot whereon a temple to Apollo had formerly stood, but was destroyed soon after by the Danes; it was rebuilt by King Edgar; and having again suffered by the ravages of the Danes, Edward the Confessor pulled down the old church, and erected a most magnificent one in its room, which was finished anno 1065, and by a bull of Pope Nicholas I. was afterwards constituted the place for the inauguration

tion of the kings of England. He gave it also a charter of sanctuary, in which he declared, that any person whatsoever, let his crimes be ever so great, who took sanctuary in that holy place, should be assured of life, liberty, and limbs; and that none of his ministers should seize any of his goods, under pain of everlasting damnation; and with the traitor Judas be in the everlasting fire of hell. Westminster Abbey, from this charter of privileges, drew people from all parts, and became an asylum for the more abandoned miscreants, who lived there in open defiance of the laws. About the year 1502, Henry VII. began that magnificent adjoining structure called by his name. This chapel has been stiled the wonder of the world; is one of the most expensive remains of English antiquity, and cannot be looked upon without admiration. On the general suppression of religious houses, the abbey was surrendered to Hen. VIII. who erected it into a college of secular canons, under the government of a dean. But this establishment was of no long duration; for two years after, he converted it into a bishopric; and this was dissolved in nine years after by Edw. VI. who restored the government by a dean. Q. Mary brought it back to its ancient state: but Q. Elizabeth again rejected the monks, and erected it into a college; and founded a school for 40 scholars, denominated queen's scholars, who were to be educated and have all the necessaries of life except cloathing, of which they were to have only a gown every year. The abbey church, which had received much damage during the civil commotions, had continued from the time of Hen. VII. without any considerable repairs, and was gradually falling into ruin, when the parliament interposed, and ordered a thorough reparation at the public expence.

I. WESTMINSTER HALL, was originally built by William Rufus, as an addition to the palace of Westminster, and was used for royal entertainments. It was rebuilt by Rich. II. in 1397, where the parliament then assembled. It is reckoned the largest room in Europe, being 270 feet long, 74 broad, and 90 high; and supported

ported by buttresses without one pillar. Here the three great courts, namely, the Chancery, King's-bench, and Common-pleas, are held; and above stairs, that of the Exchequer.

2. WESTMINSTER BRIDGE, allowed to be one of the noblest structures in Europe. It was eleven years and nine months in building, for which parliament granted the sum of 389,500*l*. The first stone was laid in 1739, and it was opened Nov. 17, 1750, by a grand procession. It contains 13 grand and spacious arches.

3. BANQUETTING-HOUSE at Whitehall, built by the celebrated Inigo Jones, is part of an intended magnificent palace that was never completed. The ceiling of this superb room was painted by Rubens, and is esteemed one of his most capital performances, as well as one of the finest ceilings in the world. Through this Banqueting-house, Charles I. was led to the scaffold, which had been erected for his execution under one of its front windows.

4. ST. JAMES'S PALACE, the residence of our kings, since the burning of Whitehall. It is an irregular building, the contempt of foreign nations, and the disgrace of our own, and makes no extraordinary appearance, either to the street or park, but has many magnificent apartments. It was built by Hen. VIII. upon the ruins of an hospital of that name. The chapel is a royal peculiar, exempt from all episcopal jurisdiction. The service of this chapel is cathedral; and there belong to it a dean, a subdean, 48 chaplains, 10 priests in ordinary, and 12 gentlemen of the chapel.

5. The QUEEN'S PALACE (formerly Buckingham-house) purchased by his present Majesty in 1762, now, more than ever, merits the attention of the curious, from the paintings and other curiosities with which his Majesty has most nobly adorned it. Among the former are to be seen those matchless paintings, the Cartoons of the great Raphael Urbin, removed from Hampton-court palace, where they were originally deposited by K. Wm. III. who brought them into Engl. His

Majesty has erected here a superb library, and stored it in the most ample manner by means of great purchases at home and abroad, as well as by the addition of several collections made by his royal predecessors.

6. The Royal Palace of SOMERSET HOUSE, is so called from a Duke of Somerset, uncle to Edw. VI. who erected it: upon his attainder it fell to the crown. The Queen of James I. kept her court here; and it has been generally assigned as the residence of a Queen Dowager. The S. front, facing the river, erected by K. Charles II. after a plan of Inigo Jones, makes a noble appearance, and commands a prospect of the river and the country beyond it. The street front is now rebuilding (1778) in a most elegant taste; and the whole structure is intended for public offices, when completed.

7. LINCOLN'S-INN is one of the 4 inns of court, and the most flourishing of them all. The chapel, built by Inigo Jones, is of Gothic architecture, and stands on massy pillars, forming underneath an ambulatory or walk, paved with broad stones. The windows are of painted glass, beautifully filled with whole length scripture personages. The colours in these pictures being bright and beautiful, they are extremely admired, though the designs and expression are in reality but poor. —The Lord Chancellors have, of late years, sat to hear causes in the hall, which is adorned with a noble painting of St. Paul before Felix, by the celebrated Hogarth.

8. GRAY'S-INN, another inn of court, has elegant gardens, adorned with a great variety of terras walks, slopes, &c.

9. The BRITISH MUSEUM. Sir Hans Sloane, Bart. (who died in 1753,) may not improperly be accounted the founder of the British Museum: for its establishment by parliament was in consequence of his leaving a noble collection of natural history, a large library, and numerous curiosities, which cost him 50,000l. to the use of the public, on condition that parliament would pay 20,000l. to his executors. An act was soon passed for the raising 300,000l. by way of lottery; 200,000l. thereof

of to be divided amongst the adventurers; 20,000*l.* to be paid to Sir Hans's executors, 10,000*l.* to purchase Lord Oxford's manuscripts, 30,000*l.* to be vested in the funds for supplying salaries for officers, and other necessary expences, and the residue for providing a general repository, &c. In this act it is ordered, that a collection of books, given by Major Edwards, should be placed in the general repository, which was to be called the British Museum: 7,000*l.* left by the said Major Edwards, are also given to the British Museum, for the purchasing books and curiosities. It happened very fortunately soon after, a generous offer was made to the trustees, of MONTAGUE-HOUSE, a magnificent building, finely ornamented with paintings, with a garden of near eight acres, at the sum of 10,000*l.* This they purchased, and every part is now so excellently contrived for holding the noble collection, that the British Museum may justly be esteemed an honour and ornament to this nation. His Majesty has also been graciously pleased to contribute other valuable collections.

10. CHARTER-HOUSE, founded in 1611, by Tho. Sutton, citizen and Girdler of London, is one of the noblest foundations for charity ever given by an individual. It retains the name of Charter-house, from the old priory here of the Chartreux or Carthusian Monks, which was founded in the reign of Edw. III. and suppressed at the general dissolution of Monasteries. Sutton endowed it with 15 manors and other lands, to the amount of near 4,500*l.* which has since been encreased to at least 6000*l.* per annum, for the maintenance of a master or governor, a preacher, two schoolmasters, a physician, register, receiver, treasurer, manciple, steward, auditor, organist, &c. 80 old men and 40 boys are maintained in the house, beside 24 students at the universities; but 4 boys being since added to the former number, and 5 to the latter, by reason of the great improvements of the rents, the pensioners and scholars together amount to 153, besides the officers and servants of the house.

11. The **FOUNDLING-HOSPITAL**, was established by Royal-charter, in 1739, for exposed and deserted young children, who are taught to spin, weave, and exercise other handicrafts. The boys are fitted for agriculture, sea-service, &c. and the girls for household work.

MARYBONE, formerly a village, but now become connected with and a part of the vast town of London, though not yet included in the bills of mortality. The elevated and wholesome situation of this parish, and the magnificence of its new buildings, have justly given it the preference, and made it the resort of persons of the first distinction and great property. The old village owed its rise to the decay of the village called Tyborne; the church belonging to which being rebuilt in 1400, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, received the additional epithet of Borne, from its nearness to a neighbouring brook or bourne. Hence St. Mary Borne, and afterwards, by corruption, St. Mary la Bonne.

HIGHGATE, 4 miles from London, had its name from a high gate on the hill, erected for the convenience of paying toll to the Bp. of London. Its church is a chapel of ease to Pancras and Hornsey, in which last parish is Muswell-hill, where was formerly a chapel called our Lady of Muswell, from a well in the neighbourhood, near which was her image, which was frequently resorted to by way of pilgrimage, on account of some pretended miraculous cures performed by the water.

HAMPSTEAD, 4 miles from London, is a large pleasant village, crowded with fine buildings, but an irregular romantic situation. It stands chiefly on the side of a hill, on which there is a heath, with the most extensive prospect of any within 20 miles of London.

KENSINGTON was a place of no note, till K. William III. purchased the Earl of Nottingham's seat, and converted it into a royal palace. The palace is an irregular structure; but the apartments are very fine and well disposed. The gallery and closet of K. William contain a choice collection of original paintings.* The exten-

* For a detail of the paintings at Kensington-palace, see English Connoisseur.

five gardens join to Hyde-park; which, the palace not being now inhabited, are open for the reception of company to walk in.

ACTON, EAST and WEST, the former 4, the latter 5 miles from Lond. The first is noted for wells of medicinal waters. Between these villages is Friars-place, supposed from many tokens to have been a monastery.

CHELSEA, remarkable for its hospital, for the maintenance of wounded and superannuated soldiers. It is a noble structure, begun by Charles II. carried on by James II. and finished by William III. It is indeed becoming the munificence of its Royal founders, being nobly accommodated with proper offices, and adorned with spacious walks and gardens. Near this place are the curious physic gardens, belonging to the company of apothecaries: Here is also a curious porcelain manufacture, in which they have made very great improvements.

RANELAGH-GARDENS, formerly belonging to the Earl of Ranelagh; but now elegantly improved, and converted into a place of public entertainment for people of fashion; a spacious rotundo being erected in the garden for the purpose of a concert, somewhat resembling the Pantheon at Rome. It has a row of windows round the Attic story, and 2 ranges of seats within that, which will hold 1000 people. At the first entrance, when all illuminated, its appearance is like a kind of enchantment. There are 4 grand portals in the manner of triumphal arches, and 28 boxes in a double row, with suitable pilasters between them. The gardens are adorned with a canal and a bason, finely illuminated with lamps.

FULHAM, 4 miles from Lond. is a large parish, with a great number of gentlemen's seats, and has a handsome wooden bridge over the river to Putney.

CHISWICK, 6 miles from Lond. is remarkable for an elegant house, built by the late Earl of Burlington, now belonging to the Duke of Devonshire. The pictures, &c. are enumerated in the English Connoisseur, 2 vol.

GREAT and LITTLE EALING, 6 miles West from Lond. are two parts of as pleasant a village as any in the county, having an elegant church lately rebuilt.

BRENTFORD, 7 miles from Lond. so called from its situation on the river Brent, where it falls into the Thames. It is divided into **OLD** and **NEW BRENTFORD**.

UXBRIDGE, 16 miles from Lond. has many commodious inns, and lies in the Oxford road. The town is watered by the river Colne, over which there is a stone bridge that leads into Buckinghamshire: There are several corn mills on the river.

HAMPTON-COURT, 14 miles from Lond. is watered on 3 sides by the river Thames. This palace was founded by Cardinal Wolsey, with as great magnificence as that age would admit of. Charles I. took great pleasure in this place, making it his Summer residence. King William and Queen Mary made many noble additions to this place, and plainly discovered how much architecture had been advanced since its foundation. The gardens were also greatly improved; and the palace abounds both in the beauties of nature and art. It consists of 2 large courts, besides the bass court for officers and servants. On the left of the outer court is a noble chapel, built by Queen Anne; and on the right, as noble a portico, supported by Doric pillars, leading to the grand stair-case, which is finely painted by Verrio. The inner court was built by K. William, who furnished the magnificent apartments in a grand taste. The great gallery here, was long rendered famous by means of the Cartoons of Raphael Urbin, but they are now removed to the Queen's palace in St. James's-park. In another there is a curious triumphal entry of a Roman Emperor, with the pictures, at full length, of the ladies in Queen Mary's retinue; together with fine pieces of porcelain, and other curiosities, collected by that Queen, and some of them worked by her own hand. In that which was King William's closet, there is an excellent collection of flowers, birds, and other curious paintings. Most of the chimney-pieces are adorned with originals of Vandyke; and there is a noble picture of K. William on horseback, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. Q. Anne began an apartment here for Prince

Prince George of Denmark, which George I. finished and finely painted. On the S. side of this palace, a garden is sunk 10 feet, to give a view from the apartments to the river, and inclosed with a balustrade of iron, finely wrought with the arms and devices of the three kingdoms, and the cyphers of K. William and Q. Mary. The front to the E. which is very noble, is all of freestone, and looks into the park, over a stately parterre half a mile long, embellished with statues, vases, gravel and green walks, and separated from the park by a balustrade of iron. In a little walled garden, on the N. side, is a most curious labyrinth or wilderness; and a long terras walk runs along the side of the river, from the palace to the bowling-green, in each corner whereof is a large pavilion.

STAINES, 17 miles from Lond. a market town, situated on the banks of the Thames, and has a large wooden bridge over it.

HARROW ON THE HILL, 10 miles from Lond. 6 from Acton, so called from its situation on a hill, esteemed the highest in Middlesex. The church has a lofty steeple, which is seen at a great distance. Charles II. called it the *Visible-Church*.

EDGWARE, 8 miles from Lond. consists chiefly of one street; the E. side, where the church stands, being properly called Edgware; and the W. which belongs to Little Stanmore, Whitchurch. The military Roman watling way, which comes over Hampstead-heath, passes by this place.

HOUNSLOW, 10 miles from Lond. is a market town, belonging to two parishes, the N. side to Heston, and the S. to Isleworth. Its heath hath been the scene of numberless robberies, and the place where K. James II. encamped his forces, to awe the city of London.

ENFIELD, 10 miles from Lond. formerly called Enfen, from its situation in moorish or fenny ground; but it has been drained several years, and is now excellent meadow and pasture land. The parish is very large, and extends to the other side of the Royal-chace, which was formerly very well stocked with deer and other game;

but in the civil wars the timber was cut down, and the deer, &c. destroyed. After the restoration, many woods and groves were planted in it, and stocked again with deer; but will never perhaps be equal to what it formerly was. There is, however, an elegant lodge for the ranger.

TOTTENHAM, 5 miles from Lond. situated on the river Lea, in the N. road, in a very healthy soil. Its church stands on a hill, encompassed on the E. N. and W. by a rivulet called the Mosel. The cross is supposed to have been erected, pursuant to a decree of the church of Rome, that a cross should be erected in every frequented place. Edw. I. adorned and repaired it, because the corpse of Eleanor his Queen rested here in its way to London to be buried.

SEATS.

MARLBOROUGH-HOUSE, on the N. side of St. James's park, and near the royal palace, a beautiful structure, erected by the great Duke of Marlborough. It is elegantly adorned with paintings, of which that round the vestibule is prodigiously admired, it being a representation of the famous battle of Hochstet, where the figures of Prince Eugene, the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Cadogan, and the French Marshal Tallard, their prisoner, are finely done from the life.

BUCKINGHAM-HOUSE, a fine seat, built by the late John Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham, at the W. end of St. James's-park, lately purchased by his Majesty. See the article Queen's-palace.

CARLTON-HOUSE, on the N. side of St. James's-park, belonging to the Princess Dowager of Wales.

NORTHUMBERLAND-HOUSE, near Charing-cross.

LEICESTER-HOUSE, a palace, in which the late Princess Dowager of Wales resided.

BURLINGTON-HOUSE, in Piccadilly.

BEDFORD-HOUSE, in Bloomsbury-square.

DEVON.

DEVONSHIRE-HOUSE, in Piccadilly. The collection of pictures with which this house is adorned, is surpassed by very few, either at home or abroad.

HOLLAND-HOUSE and Camden-house, both near Kensington.

DAWLEY, Edmund Stephenson, Esq;

The Bishop of London's palace, at Fulham.

The late Lord Hatton's seat, at West-Acton.

The late Earl of Burlington's, at Chiswick.

SION-HOUSE, Duke of Northumberland's, near Brentford. Founded by Henry V. in 1414.

Princess Amelia's, Gunnersbury-house.

DURHAMS, near Barnet, Earl of Albemarle's.

At Edgware was a princely house, built by a late Duke of Chandos, called Cannons, which after his death was pulled down and sold piecemeal, as a purchaser could not be found for the whole. The ground was bought by Mr. Hallet, a cabinet-maker, who built an elegant house on the same spot, chiefly out of the materials left behind.

The Duke of Ancafter's, near Chelsea.

The Bishop of Winchester's, near the same place.

The Earl of Berkeley's, at Cranford, near Hounslow.

MORDANT-HOUSE, near Hammer-smith.

The late Earl of Burlington's, near Chiswick.

The Earl of Uxbridge's, at Drayton, near Colnbrook.

Lord North's, at Bushey-park.

Lord Coleraine's, at Tottenham.

WARWICK-CASTLE, at North-end, Earl Brooke's.

The Earl of Dunmore's, at Stanwell-Moor.

Duke of Buccleugh's, at Isleworth.

The late Duke of Argyle's, at Whitton.

E S S E X

IS bounded on the E. by the German ocean: on the W. by the rivers Lea and Stort, the former dividing it from Middlesex, and the latter from Hertfordshire: on the N. by the Stour, which separates it from Suffolk and

Cambridgeshire; and on the S. by the Thames. It is about 30 miles in length, 35 in breadth, and 140 in circumference; contains 20 hundreds, 22 market towns, 415 parishes, 46 parks, one forest, and 1, 240,000 acres. It abounds with corn, cattle, and wild fowl; and the N. parts of it, especially about Saffron-Walden, produce great quantities of Salmon. Abundance of Oxen and Sheep are fed in the marshes near the Thames, and sent to the markets of London. They have plenty of fish of all sorts from the sea and rivers; and by the sea side are decoys for wild fowl, which, in the winter season, produce great profit. Toward the sea the air of this county is aguish, though it is more so in regard to strangers than the natives. One would not, however, advise a blooming lass of the healthful inland country to marry into these parts for the sake of bettering her fortune, because she certainly runs the hazard of her life. It is no fable that we are told, concerning the trade carried on for wives in the hundreds; several farmers having a 5th, 6th, or 7th wife, whom they fetch out of the upper country.

COLCHESTER, 51 miles from London, the chief town of the county, is a large populous place, on the river Coln, which passes through it, and is made navigable for small craft up to the Hithe, a long street, which may be called the Wapping of Colchester, where there is a convenient key; and at Vennoe, within 3 miles of it, is a good Custom-house. This, and all the towns round it, are noted for making of baize, of which great quantities are exported to America and to Spain, being the chief cloathing of the Spanish nuns and fryars. For the support of this trade, there is a corporation called governors of the Dutch bay-hall; this town is also noted for excellent oysters, and for candying eringo root. It is pleasantly situated on the top of a hill, from whence 2 long streets run down to the bottom; and, though the whole is not finely built, yet it has a great many good houses and some noble buildings; as the bay-hall, the guild-hall, or moot-hall, as they call it. It is reckoned about 3 miles in circumference, has 10 parish churches and 5 meeting houses. It had antiently a wall and a strong

strong castle, built by Edward, son to King Alfred, about the year 912; but now few marks remain of either. It is supposed to have been antiently a Roman colony, many ruins and some buildings of Roman brick still remaining. The Queen's head, in the market-place, is thought to be a Roman structure. St. John's abbey was erected by Eudo, steward to William Rufus, about the year 1097.

MALDEN, 37 miles from London, stands on an eminence near the sea, and was the first Roman colony in Britain. It is large and populous, tho' it consists chiefly of one street. It has a convenient haven or arm of the sea for ships of 400 ton; and some of the inhabitants drive a considerable trade in coals, iron, deals and corn. Here is a large library for the use of the ministers of the place, and the neighbouring clergy. A little beyond the town begins Blackwater bay, famous for the pits of those excellent oysters, called Wall-Fleet, from the shore where they lie, which is 5 miles long, and guarded by a wall of earth to keep off the sea.

HARWICH, 72 miles from London, stands near the mouth of the Stour; a large, well built, clean, and populous town, and not only defended by the sea, which almost encompasses it, but by strong fortifications. The people of Harwich boast, that it is walled round and paved with clay. The fact is, that the clay falling from a cliff, between the town and the Beacon-hill, into a petrifying water, soon grows as hard as stone; and the wall is as strong, and the streets as clean as those that are actually of stone. Here is a good yard for building ships, with the conveniences of store-houses, cranes, launches, and all other necessities. It is the station for the packet boats, which pass to and from Holland, Germany, and other ports, with the mails and passengers. Opposite to the fort, on the S. side of the mouth of the harbour, is Beacon-hill, about half a mile from the town, to which there is a pleasant walk: there is a large and lofty light-house on this hill, from whence there is an extensive view of the coast of Suffolk and Essex, the town and port of Harwich, and the men of war when riding at Gun-fleet. At the foot of the hill is the
above-

above-mentioned spring, said to turn wood into metal; but it is only of a petrifying nature: though it cannot be denied, that the stone along this shore is much of the copperas kind, and a great deal of that stone is found between this and the Naze; and both here and at Walton adjoining to the Naze, are several works for preparing and boiling the liquids, which produce at last the copperas itself. The inns at Harwich are good, but the accommodations very dear, by means of the great concourse of people to and from Holland. The harbour is very spacious, occasioned by the influx of the Stour from Manningtree, and the Orwell from Ipswich into the bay, and such use made of it in the Dutch war, that more than 100 sail of men of war with their tenders, besides great numbers of colliers have rode at anchor in it at a time. There are 2 or 3 islands S. of Harwich, called Pewet, Horsey, and Holmes, that breed sea-fowl, which, when fat, are delicious. And on the same side are Thorp, Kirkley, and Walton, included within what was anciently called the Liberty of the Soke, in which the Sheriff of the county has no power.

MANNINGTREE, 60 miles from London. has a bridge over the Stour, thence often called Manningtree water, and is a town of good trade.

BRAINTREE, 40 miles from London, was formerly of great note for the manufacture of baize and other stuffs; but that branch of trade is now greatly decreased.

BOCKING, parted from Braintree by a rivulet, is one of the largest villages in Essex, and adorned with fine spacious houses of clothiers, enriched by the manufacture of baize, of which this village has a peculiar sort, called Bockings. Its church is a deanery, in the gift of the archbishop of Canterbury.

FELSTED, near Braintree, is a small place, but of note for a flourishing grammar school, liberally endowed for 80 children, natives of Essex.

COGGESHALL, 7 miles from Colchester, 44 from London, had formerly a large trade for baize. Near this town, in a grotto by the road side, was found a phial with

with a lamp in it, covered with a Roman tile; also some urns and crocks with ashes and bones.

DUNMOW, 36 miles from London, a place of great antiquity, pleasantly situated on a high gravelly hill. Some places discover the remains of an old Roman way. Here Fitzwalter, in the time of Henry III. instituted a custom, that whatever married man did not repent of his marriage, nor quarrel with his wife within a year and a day, should go to the priory of Dunmow, and have a gammon or sitch of bacon. The canons, formerly settled here, were obliged, by their constitution, to deliver the bacon to any person, from any part of England, who kneeling upon sharp stones, would venture to repeat the following oath:

You shall swear by the custom of our confession,
That you never made any nuptial transgression,
Since you were married to your wife,
By household brawls or contentious strife;
Or otherwise, in bed or at board,
Offended each other in deed or in word;
Or, since the parish clerk said Amen,
Wished yourselves unmarried agen;
Or in a twelvemonth and a day,
Repented not in thought any way,
But continued true and in desire,
As when you joined hands in holy quire.
If to these conditions, without all fear,
Of your own accord you will freely swear,
A gammon of bacon you shall receive,
And bear it hence with love and good leave.
For this is our custom at Dunmow well known;
Tho' the sport be ours, the bacon's your own.

The records of the place mention no less than *three* matrimonial heroes, who in the space of five hundred years, were bold enough to make the claim, and carried off the prize. Their names were Richard Wright, Stephen Samuel, and Thomas Fuller. Tradition says, several others had intended to perform the same, but some

some way or other disqualified themselves in the very act or preparation: particularly one good man, whose wife unluckily, upon the road, took it in her head that she knew the way to Dunmow better than her husband; which occasioned such a contention betwixt them, that they both thought proper to return without demanding the bacon.

THAXTED, 42 miles from London, 6 from Walden, remarkable for its church, which is a very regular and stately building.

SAFFRON WALDEN, 43 miles from London, had its present name from its situation among many pleasant fields of Saffron, a choice product which few other counties yield, and none can equal. It was first brought into England in the reign of Edward III. and has thriven in this soil to a prodigious degree. It shoots out a blueish flower about the end of September, in the midst whereof are three yellow chives of saffron. These are picked out of the flower, and dried by a gentle fire. Its increase is so wonderful, that though every flower seems to yield so little, an acre of ground will produce 80 pound of wet saffron, which when dried will weigh 20 pound.

CHELMSFORD, 29 miles from London, stands in a beautiful plain, having the little river Chelmer running through it, over which there is a bridge. It is a large populous town almost in the center of the county; its situation renders it the most frequented, and is called the shire town.

ST. OSYTH ISLAND, 10 miles from Chelmsford, and 3 from Malden, is an island abounding with great plenty of wild fowl at certain seasons. It stands in a large frith, or inlet of the sea, which the fishermen and sailors, who use it as a port, call Malden water. It owes its name to a priory dedicated to St. Osyth, a holy virgin, who was massacred here by pyrates. The structure was built by Richard de Belmeis, Bishop of London, A. D. 1120. There are still considerable remains of this structure.

MERSEY, is another island, lying between Malden water and Colchester. It had formerly 8 parishes, now only two, distinguished by E. and W. Mersey. 'Tis a place

place so inaccessible and strong by nature, that it may be called impregnable.

INGATESTONE, 23 miles from London, 5 from Chelmsford, has a considerable trade. It is remarkable for having been the residence of Sir William Petres, who lies buried under a stately monument in the church. He founded 8 fellowships in Exeter college, Oxon, and built an alms house here for 20 poor people, and a chaplain.

BRENTWOOD, 18 miles from London, 6 from Ingatestone, stands on a high hill, and is well inhabited.

BILLERICAY, 23 miles from London, 4 from Brentwood, stands on a hill, and is principally noted for being a large market for corn.

CONVEY ISLE, the Connos mentioned by Ptolemy. It is about 5 miles in length from Hole-haven to Leigh. Over against it is the place called the Hope: the island lies low, and is sometimes great part overflowed by the tide of the Thames. Many thousands of sheep are fed here; at the flowing of the tide they retreat so fast to the hills, that few are lost.

RUMFORD, 12 miles from London, holds a court for the trial of treasons, felonies, debts and other actions.

HORNCHURCH, 11 miles from London, is a very large parish, and had formerly a monastery.

DAGENHAM, 15 miles from London, is remarkable for that breach made by the Thames, by which 5000 acres of land were laid under water. After being overflowed 10 years, and many fruitless attempts made to stop the inundation, it was effected by Capt. Perry, who had been several years employed in the Czar of Muscovy's works at Veronitza, on the river Don.

TILBURY, 4 miles from Grays, 30 from London, consists of 2 parishes E. and W. both by the side of the Thames. Near the former are very spacious caverns in a chalky cliff, built very artificially with stone, to the height of two fathoms, and somewhat narrow at the top. Here Queen Elizabeth formed her camp when she had intelligence of the Spanish Armada.

WEST TILBURY, may be reckoned the key of the city of London, there being a regular fortification, defended by

by a constant garrison. The esplanade is very large, and the bastions, which are faced with brick, the largest in England. It has a double ditch, the innermost of which is 180 feet wide, a good counterescarp, and a covered way marked out with ravelins and tenailles.

GREYS THURROCK, 9 miles from Barking, has a good market for corn and cattle. We read in the Philosophical Transactions, that in the marshes near the Thames about this place, great numbers of subterraneous trees, have been frequently discovered.

STRATFORD LANGTHORN, 2 miles from Wanstead, is a very pretty place, many of the houses remarkably neat, having rows of trees with seats before their doors, and fine gardens.

CHIPPING ONGAR, 6 miles from Epping and Brentwood, and 22 from London, was formerly the residence of Richard de Lucy, a Norfolk nobleman, who in the absence of Hen. II. was protector of England. Here are the remains of a castle, which stood on a high artificial mount, surrounded with a large moat.

WITHAM, 37 miles from London, is a neat built pleasant town, with several good inns, it being a thoroughfare from London to Harwich. It is supposed to be the Ad Ansam of the Romans.

EPHING, 17 miles from London stands on the river Lea, where the streams dividing inclose several small islands which are often overflowed. The forest antiently called the Forest of Essex, was once of very large extent, and reached to the sea. Disputes arising about the bounds or limits, it was determined by commissioners in the reign of Charles I. according to which Wanstead, Layton, Walthamstow, Woodford, Loughton, Chigwell, Lamborn and Stapleford Abbots are within the limits of the forest. It is sometimes called Waltham, and sometimes Epping Forest; the former was its antient name; but it has acquired the latter from the town of Epping, being become more eminent than Waltham.

ANTIQUITIES.

HADLEIGH-CASTLE, built by Hubert de Burg, Earl of Kent, in the reign of Henry III.

At ASHTON, 3 M. N. of Saffron Walden, are 4 Barrows or pyramidal hillocks, erected by Canute the Dane, in memory of the battle fought there, in which he totally defeated Emond Ironside's army.

SEATS.

NEWHALL, 4 miles from Chelmsford, Lord Waltham.

Duke of Ancafter's, at Havering, near Rumbold.

The Earl of Rochfort's, at St. Osyth, 14 miles from Harwich.

The Earl of Tilney's, at Wantage, on the edge of Epping Forest.

The Earl of Walgrave, at Navestock.

AUDLEY-END, Sir John Griffin Griffin. — Great part of this once sumptuous palace (formerly the seat of the Earls of Suffolk) is now pulled down; yet there still remains what may be well called a most noble house.

MOULSHAM-HALL, near Chelmsford, Sir William Mildmay.

Lord Barrington's, at Tufts.

Lord Petre's, at West-Hendon, Writtle-park, Ingerstone, and Thornton, 3 miles from Brentwood.

HEDINGHAM-CASTLE, built by the family of the Veres, afterwards Earls of Oxford, now the seat of Thomas Ashurst, Esq;

HERTFORDSHIRE

IS bounded on the E. by Essex; on the W. by Buckinghamshire; on the N. W. by Bedfordshire; on the N. by Cambridgeshire; and on the S. by Middlesex. It is about 36 miles in circumference, and divided into 8 hundreds, in which are 18 market towns, 120 parishes, and about 451,000 acres.

Its chief rivers are the Lea, the Coln, the Stort, the Ver, and the New River. The W. part is hilly, and called

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called the Chiltern; abounds with woods and corn fields, covered with loose stones.

HERTFORD, 22 miles from London, is the chief and shire town, from which the county and hundred derive their names. The town was of some note in the time of the Romans, who called it Durocobriva, or red Ford, from the red gravel at the ford. The East Saxon Kings frequently kept their courts here, and in the year 673, a synod was held at this place, at which two kings of the heptarchy assisted, and the archbishop of Canterbury presided. It is pleasantly situated on the river Lea, and built in the form of a Roman Y, with a castle placed between the two horns. It had 5 churches, which are now reduced to two, All Saints and St. Andrews.

ST. ALBANS, 21 miles from London, so called from an abbey built there to the memory of Albanus, the first English martyr. It is considered as having risen out of the ruins of an ancient Roman town, called Verulam, though Verulam was situated on the other side of the Ver. Considerable fragments of the Roman walls still remain, though great quantities have been taken away for other buildings, and sometimes merely to repair the roads. Here are four churches: that called St. Albans was the abbey, founded by Offa, King of Mercia, about the year 793; in it are great numbers of very remarkable inscriptions and monuments. In this church was discovered, not many years since, the tomb of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, brother to Hen. V. The Duke's corpse, preserved almost entire, in a sort of pickle, was found in a leaden coffin. This venerable remain of monkish magnificence, was happily preserved at the dissolution, being purchased by the inhabitants for 400l. and converted into a parish church. It was twice occupied by the courts of law; when the judges removed from Westminster on account of the plague; as an inscription on the walls within inform us. Near it is Oyster Hill, supposed to have been a camp of Ostorius, the Roman Proprætor. It is impossible to visit St. Alban's, without thinking of the great Lord Bacon, Baron of Verulam, who is allowed to have laid the foundation

dation of most of the modern improvements in sciences, and was born at Gorhambury, near this place. In this county, at Abbots Langley, was also born Nicholas Breakspear, who, for his great learning, was raised to be Pope, by the name of Adrian IV. These two curiosities in the human race may atone for the want of other natural curiosities in this county, of which there are not many. The great Duke of Marlborough erected a seat at St. Albans, and his Dutchess caused a fine statue of Queen Anne to be carved by Mr. Rysbrack, with her majesty's character both in public and private life, having this remarkable subscription under it, "All this I know to be true, Sarah Marlborough, 1738."

ROYSTON, 37 miles from London, 16 from Ware, had its name from a cross on the side of the road, built by Rofia, a famous lady. Here was a priory erected to the honour of Thomas Becket: the church, containing several fine monuments, belonged to the convent, and was purchased by the inhabitants. The Roman highway, called Via Consularis, and Ermine-street, passes through this hundred.

BARKWAY, 3 miles from Royston, 37 from London, is a populous flourishing town, and has many good inns. In the church are several handsome monuments.

BUNTINGFORD, 6 miles from Royston, 10 from Ware, 31 from London, is a pleasant town, and has a handsome alms-house liberally endowed.

BALDOCK, 37 miles from London, a pretty large town, situated between the hills. The church is large and has 3 chancels.

STEVENAGE, 31 miles from London, 7 from Buntingford, has a handsome church situated on a high hill, a free school, an hospital, called All Christian Souls House, and some remarkable funds of charity for the poor.

BISHOP'S-HATFIELD, 20 miles from London, 8 from Hodsdon, noted for its antiquity. In the year 681 Theodore, Bishop of Canterbury, held a synod here. It is situate on an open spacious plain, has good houses, and was once the residence of the Kings of England.

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TOTTERIGE, 8 miles from Hatfield, is a fine pleasant village, situated on an eminence, looking to the N. over St. Alban's in the forest, and the S. over the Edgware road to Harrow. It is a clean neat place, and has many good houses.

HITCHIN, or, as it was antiently called, Hitchend, 34 miles from London, 4 from Baldock, is esteemed the second town in the county.

BISHOP'S-STORTFORD, 30 miles from London, 13 from Stevenage, is a considerable place. It is built in the form of a cross, having 4 streets pointing to the 4 cardinal points, on a dry soil, and in a very healthful air. In a little island formed by the river Stort, are the ruins of a small castle, called Waymour, said to have been built by William the Conqueror. The church stands on a hill in the middle of the town, has a nave, an ayle on each side, a chancel, 9 stalls on each side for a choir, and a handsome tower.

HODSDON, 4 miles from Ware, 17 from London, has a considerable market, especially for corn, and a grammar school founded by Queen Elizabeth.

WARE, 2 miles from Hertford, 21 from London, situated on the river Lea, is one of the most noted towns in the county, considered as a thorough-fare. It has a large market; and in one of its inns is the large bed, so much visited by travellers, being 12 feet square, and spacious enough to hold 40 people. The church is large, built in form of a cross, and has 3 chancels.

SABRIDGEWORTH, or **SABSWORTH**, 6 miles from Ware, has a handsome church, in which are some elegant monuments.

BEKKHAMPSTEAD, 26 miles from London, was formerly a place of great note, several of the Saxon Kings keeping their courts here. Robert de Morton, Earl of Cornwall, brother to William the Conqueror, built a castle on the N. side of the town, the remains of which are converted into a gentleman's seat. The church is a spacious edifice, dedicated to St. Peter, and has many chapels and oratories. On the pillars of the church are 11 of the apostles, and over each of them a sentence of the

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the creed; and on the 12th pillar is St. George Killing the Dragon.

HEMSTED, 4 miles from Berkhamstead, 23 from London, is a pretty populous town, situated on the river Gade, and surrounded by hills. The market is one of the greatest in the county for wheat.

TRING, or TROUNG, 31 miles from London, is a small town on the borders of Buckinghamshire. The church is a handsome structure, and neatly wainscotted. In this parish rises one of the heads of the Thames.

BARNET, 10 miles from London, has a famous market for corn and cattle. Its church is a chapel of ease to East-Barnet.

EAST-BARNET, is a pleasant village in the neighbourhood of Barnet, and was formerly frequented on account of a medicinal spring, discovered in the last century on the neighbouring common.

WATFORD, 6 miles from St. Alban's, 15 from London, consists of one long street, has a handsome free school founded in 1709, and several alms-houses.

RICKMANSWORTH, 3 miles from Watford, 18 from London, has a handsome church. On Warren-hill, above the manor house of Mitchfield, is an echo, which repeats the sound of a trumpet 12 times.

ANTIQUITIES.

1. An oval camp of great strength and ancient works, on a high hill near Hexton.

2. RAVENSBOROUGH-CASTLE, about half a mile from the former, is an oblong camp of about 16 acres, with an intire fortification, and rendered so strong by nature, that a thousand men may defend it against a powerful army.

3. Near Westleton-Green, in the parish of Little Hadham, is another fortress, which seems to be a Roman work.

4. In Killmore-field, W. of Cheshunt-street, are the remains of another camp, the angle of the square, or rather oblong fortification, yet remaining, and the vallum and fosse very visible for above 100 yards.

5. Three

5. Three of the Roman military ways lead through this county, which cannot be said of any other.

SEATS.

HOLLOWAY-HOUSE, at St. Alban's, Lord Viscount Spencer's.

Duke of Newcastle's, at Aldenham, near St. Alban's.

The Duke of Bridgewater's, at Little Gaddesden.

The Duke of Leeds, at Aldbury and North Mims.

The Duke of Portland's, at Theobald's. This place, once a royal palace, is now let out into tenements, and its fine park converted into farms.

The Earl of Salisbury's, at Hatfield.

The Earl of Essex's, Cassiobury, near Watford.

Lord Hyde's, at Grove-park.

Countess Dowager of Essex, at Ruffel Farm.

Sir Lawrence Dundas's, at Moor-park, late Lord Anson's.

Earl Cooper's, at Hertingfordbury and Colne-Green.

The Earl of Anglesea's, at Totteridge.

Lord Monson's, at Broxbourn-park, near Hodsdon.

Lord Grimston's, at Gorhambury, near St. Alban's.

Lord Aston's, at Standon, 5 miles from Ware.

Late Lord Raymond's, at Langley.

Sir John Seabright, Beechwood-manor, near Flamsted.

Sir --- Clark, Bart. near Hertford.

Sir --- Blount, at Colney.

GUBBINS, near Hatfield. Formerly the seat of the great Sir Thomas More.

Mr. Byde's, at Ware-park.

Mr. Plummer's, at Blakesware.

Mr. Cross's, at Berylade.

Mr. Chester's, at Hunsdon.

Mr. Gardiner's, at Pishobury, near Salsworth.

BEDFORDSHIRE

IS bounded on the S. by Hertfordshire; on the N. by Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire; on the E. by Cambridgeshire; and on the W. by Buckinghamshire. It is of an oval form, about 22 miles in length, 15 in breadth, and 73 in circumference; contains 9 hundreds, 10 market towns, 124 parishes, 550 villages, and about 260,000 acres. The soil is a deep clay, fruitful both in corn and pasture in the northern parts, but sandy in the middle, with a ridge of hills cloathed with wood. Its principal rivers are the Ouse and the Iwell. It has forests and parks well stocked with deer, and fat pastures with cattle.

BEDFORD, 50 miles from Lond. is the county town, a clean, well-built, populous place. Here are 5 churches, of which the chief, and indeed the principal ornament of the town, is St. Paul's, which had once a college of prebendaries. The priory, now belonging to the Earl of Alburnham, was founded before the Norman conquest, for secular canons. The buildings of this town are pretty good; and the streets broad. The N. and S. parts are joined by a stone bridge over the Ouse. A famous castle here was demolished in the reign of Hen. VIII. and the scite is now a bowling-green, reckoned one of the finest in England.

BIGGLESWADE, 5 miles from Bedford, 45 from Lond. is noted for its horse fair and stone bridge. It is a great thoroughfare in the road from London to York.

AMPTHILL, 46 miles from Lond. is a pretty market town, pleasantly situated between two hills, almost in the heart of the county.

WOBURN, 42 miles from Lond. In 1724 about 100 houses in this town were burnt down, which were afterwards neatly rebuilt, and a fine market house erected, at the expence of the Duke of Bedford; so that the town makes a handsome appearance. Here is a free school, founded by Francis Earl of Bedford; and a charity school for 30 boys, who are cloathed and taught. In

and near this place fuller's earth is dug up in great quantities.

LEIGHTEN-BUZZARD, 41 miles from Lond. 4 from Woburn, on the borders of Buckinghamshire. Its market is well supplied with cattle, and its Whitsuntide fair with horses.

DUNSTABLE, 34 miles from Lond. on a high chalk, at the entrance of that long ridge of hills called the Chiltern. It stands on the old Roman way, Watling-street, in the very place where it is crossed by the Ikenild-street, where Roman coins, vulgarly called madning money, have sometimes been found. Not far from the town, at the very descent of the Chiltern-hills, is a large area of 19 acres, surrounded with a deep ditch, and ramparts, called Maiden-bower. Here are 4 streets in the town answering the 4 quarters of the world, and because of the dryness of the soil (no springs being to be found) have each a pond, which though only supplied by rain water is never dry. The parish church was formerly a priory, and built by Hen. I. Dunstable is remarkable for its neat straw manufacture of hats, boxes, and toys, which are stained of various colours.

LUTON, 29 miles from Lond. 3 from Dunstable, pleasantly situated; has a manufacture of straw hats.

ANTIQUITIES.

1. POTTEN, a little town, formerly belonging to Thomas Plantagenet, Earl of Lancaster.

2. TEMSFORD, a village noted for a camp of the Danes, when they ruined a strong fort built by the Romans, which was then defended by the Saxons.

3. SANDY, the Selenæ of Ptolemy, where many urns and Roman coins have been dug up.

4. WOOD-END, the seat of the Lukes, from which family was descended Sir Samuel, one of Cromwell's commanders, thought to be the original Hudibras of Butler.

5. The Woad, for which this county is famous, is the plant with which the ancient Britons used to dye their bodies, that they might appear terrible to their enemies;

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mies; or rather, perhaps, to defend them from the inclemency of the weather. The Woad is an annual plant, and best in a dry season, though more plentiful in a wet one. It is cropped 4 or 5 times a year as it comes up; but the first crop is best, every one after being gradually worse. When gathered it is immediately ground small in a mill, till it becomes fit to ball; and when balled, it is laid upon hurdles to dry, and then ground into powder; after this it is spread on a floor and watered, which is called couching; and then turned every day till it is perfectly dry and mouldy, which is called silvering. After silvering, it is sent to the dyer to try, who sets a price according to its goodness. The best is valued at 18l. a ton.

6. **HARWOOD NUNNERY**, formerly called Harewold, was founded by Sampson de Forte, A. D. 1150, for nuns of the order of St. Augustine.

7. **WARDON MONASTERY**, built for Cistercian monks, by Walter de Espec, A. D. 1136.

SEATS.

WOBURN ABBEY, the noble palace of his Grace the Duke of Bedford, formerly an ancient Abbey, founded in 1145. It has a canal before it that carries a yatch of 30 or 40 tons, and several pleasure-boats.

The Duke of Bedford's seat at Ampthill.

WREST-HOUSE, the Marchioness de Grey's, Lady to the Earl of Hardwicke.

HAWNES, late E. of Granville's, Hon. Mr. Thynne's.

Lord St. John of Bletfoc, at Melchburn.

Lord Trevor's, at Brumham.

Lord Torrington's, at Southill.

Sir George Osborn's, Bart. Chuckland Priory. This convent was founded in the reign of Hen. I. by Roise, wife of Paganus de Beauchamp, Baron of Bedford, for nuns of the order of St. Gilbert of Sempringham.

Earl of Bute's, at Luton-hoe.

Sir Roger Burgoyne's, Bart. at Sutton.

Thomas Page, Esq; at Battlefen.

Sir Boteler Charnocke, Bart. at Halcot.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Sir Philip Monoux, Bart. at Wooton, and at Sandy.

Sir Rowland Alston, Bart. at Odel.

Sir Stephen Anderlon, Bart. at Eyeworth.

Late Sir ---- Cotton, Bart. at Stratton.

Lord Ongly, at Old Warden.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

IS bounded on the S. by the Thames, which divides it from Berkshire; on the W. by Oxfordshire; on the N. by Northamptonshire; and on the E. by Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Middlesex. It is 39 miles in length, 18 in breadth, and 138 in circumference; contains 11 market towns, eight hundreds, 185 parishes, 615 villages, and about 441,000 acres.

This county is diversified with pleasant woods, and fine streams. Its chief rivers are the Thames, the Ouse, and the Coln. The soil is very fruitful both in corn and pasture, and abounds with physical plants.

BUCKINGHAM, 57 miles from Lond. is the county town, stands in a low ground encompassed on all sides but the N. with the river Ouse. The castle, now in ruins, was built in the middle of it, and divides it into 2 parts. In the N. part stands the town hall, a very handsome convenient structure. This town was for many years a staple for wool, and several of its wool halls are yet standing, but that trade is now lost. It is populous, and has 3 stone bridges over the Ouse. Its church, which is in the W. part of the town, is very large; and when the spire was standing, might be reckoned the best in the county; in 1698, it was in part blown down, and never since rebuilt. The lace manufacture is the principal business here, as well as in other parts of the county. Earl Temple has lately made a new road from this town to his celebrated seat at Stowe: it runs in a straight line, about two miles, up to the Corinthian arch; which however sometimes disappears, owing to the rising and falling of the ground.

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HIGH-WICKHAM, or **CHIPPING-WYCOMB**, 5 miles from **Amersham**, 29 from **Lond.** lies in a vale on the turning of a little river, which from hence cuts its way into the **Thames**. It was called **Chipping** from the Saxon word, denoting a market town; **Wycomb**, from the river on which it is situated, the Germans calling the windings of a sea or river, **Wick**, and a low valley, **Comb**. This town, which has on each side pleasant hills shaded with woods, may, for antiquity, extent and beauty, compare with the greatest and best in the shire. **Q.** **Elizabeth** gave lands for the maintenance of a free grammar school, in this town, where the assizes are sometimes held. In **July, 1724**, in digging a meadow near this town, was discovered a Roman antiquity, viz. a pavement of nine feet square, with stones of various colours wrought with exquisite art, the biggest not broader than the square of a dye.

AYLESBURY, 38 miles from **Lond.** is a very antient town, at the **E.** end of a rich fruitful vale, which feeds incredible numbers of cattle and sheep, remarkable for their size and fine fleeces; and extends almost from **Tame** on the edge of **Oxfordshire**, to **Leighton** in **Bedfordshire**. The town hall is a handsome fabric built in the middle of the market place, where the county assizes and sessions are often held. It is a compact and populous town, the best in the county, and stands on a rising ground, consisting of several fine streets. The market place is a handsome square, supplied with plenty of provisions. The manor of **Aylesbury** was held from **William the Conqueror**, by a very odd tenure: The inhabitants being to furnish litter and sweet herbs for the King's bed-chambers, three eels in the winter, and three green geese in summer, three times in the year, should the King please so often to visit them.

AMERSHAM, or **AGMONDESHAM**, 26 miles from **Lond.** is a small but very ancient town, lying in a vale with woody hills on each side. It has a handsome town hall and a free school, but is no corporation.

WENDOVER, an old corporate town but a poor place, in a dirty situation, at the entrance of the vale of **Aylesbury**.

GREAT MARLOW, 3 miles from Wycomb, and 32 from Lond. is a borough though not incorporated; it takes its name from the marle which abounds in the adjacent soil. It is a pretty large town, with a bridge over the Thames, not far from the place where it receives the Wycomb river; and has a handsome church and town-hall. The chief manufacture of the town is bonelace, but it is of much more account, 1. For the navigation carried on by means of the Thames, for meal, malt, and beech timber. 2. For its neighbouring corn and paper mills, and the Temple Mills, for making kettles, pans, &c. besides another for making thimbles; and another for pressing oil from rape and flax seed.

ETON, which is joined by a wooden bridge, over the Thames to Windsor, famous for its beautiful college, the revenue of which is about 5000l. a year, for the maintenance of a provost, and for instructing 70 King's scholars, who, when fitted for the university, are elected to King's-college, Cambridge. There is a full choir for the chapel. The college has large cloysters like the monasteries abroad. The chapel is a noble pile, and the whole very ancient, except the school room. Here is a fine library, and a statue to the honour of the founder of the college, Hen. VI. The gardens extend from the college almost to the Thames.

COLNBROOK, 17 miles from Lond. stands on the river Coln, here divided into 4 channels; over each of which is a bridge: the town is small, but has some great inns, which are its principal support.

BEACONSFIELD, 8 miles from Marlow, 24 from Lond. stands on a hill in the Oxford road, and was the birth place of that great poet, Waller.

STONY-STRATFORD, 5 miles from Newport Pagnel, and 52 from Lond. is a well frequented town in the road to Cheshire, with a stone bridge over the Ouse. Takes its name from the stony ford that led over the river, and stands on the Roman causeway, called Watling-street, some remains of which are plainly to be seen. It is a large town with two parish churches, and here King Edw,

Edw. I. erected a stately cross. The principal manufacture of this place is bone-lace.

NEWPORT-PAGNEL, 51 miles from Lond. stands on the S. side of the Ouse, over which it has two stone bridges, and is a well built, populous trading town, being a sort of staple for bone-lace, of which, this and the neighbouring villages are said to make greater quantities than all England besides: it is neither a borough nor corporation, but bigger than many places which are so.

OULNEY, 7 miles from Northampton, 56 from Lond. stands on the W. side of the river Ouse, noted also for the manufacture of bone-lace.

ANTIQUITIES.

NUTLEY-ABBAY, founded by Walter Gifford, Earl of Buckingham, for canons regular, A. D. 1162.

BURNHAM NUNNERY, founded for Benedictine nuns by Edw. III.

SEATS.

CLIFFDEN, the Earl of Inchiquin's.

The Duke of Marlborough's, at Langley-park, where his late Grace built a new house.

Duke of Montagu's, at Ditton-park.

Duke of Bedford's, at Cheyneys.

Duke of Kingston's, at Hanlape.

Duke of Portland's, at Bulstrode.

Duke of Bridgewater's, at Ashridge.

PERCY-LODGE, Duke of Northumberland's, at Risling.

Late Lord James Cavendish, at Latimers.

Earl Temple's, at Stowe, where are the most magnificent gardens in England, adorned with temples, pavilions, obelisks, statues and bustos of many illustrious personages, both ancient and modern.

Sir William Stanhope, at Ascot and Eythorp.

Sir Charles Chester's, at Chichely.

Richard Lowndes, Esq; at Wintow.

Mr. Hamden's, at Great-Hamden.

- Edmund Waller, Esq; at Hall-barn, near Beaconsfield.
 Earl Verney's, at Middle Clayden.
 Mrs. Pilsworth, at Oving.
 George Wright, Esq; at Gotehurst.
 Richard Grenville, Esq; at Wotton-Underwood.
 Mr. Herbert's, at Kinsey.
 Sir William Bowyer's, Bart. at Denham.
 Mr. Hill's, at Denham.
 Mr. Drake's, Amerham-mount.
 Sir William Lee's, Hartwell-house.
 William Perry's, Esq; Turville-park.
 John Fleetwood's, Esq; at Great Miffenden.
 Tyringham Backwell's, Esq; at Tyringham.
 Mr. Farrer's, at Brayfield.
 Mr. Uthwaite's, at Linford Magna.
 Sir John Wittewronge's, at Stantonbury.
 Sir Charles Tyrrel's, at Thornton.
 Sir Robert Throckmorton's, at Weston Underwood.
 Lord Dormer's, at Peterley.

OXFORDSHIRE

IS bounded on the E. by Buckinghamshire; on the W. by Gloucestershire; on the N. by Northamptonshire and Warwickshire; and on the S. by Berkshire. It is about 42 miles in length, 26 in breadth, and 130 in circumference; contains one city, 15 market towns, 280 parishes, 14 hundreds, and about 534,000 acres. Its chief rivers are the Tame, the Isis, the Charwell, the Evenlode, and the Windrush. It is very fruitful, abounding in corn, meadow and pastures.

The city of Oxford, 54 miles from Lond. stands at the conflux of the Charwell and Isis: the name seems to be derived from a Saxon word, which signifies a Ford for the passage of Oxen. It enjoys a sweet air, in a plentiful country, on a fine plain, and has every way a most delightful prospect: The private buildings are neat, the

the public ones sumptuous; and the river navigable for barges. But that which gives it a consequence above all other places in this kingdom, is the oldest and most noble university in Europe. It is of so great antiquity, as to have been an university between eight and nine hundred years. The constitution is so regular, the endowments so plentiful, the mansions so convenient for study, and every thing so agreeable to the education of youth, and the accomplishment of students, that it is no wonder that such numbers of learned men are daily sent abroad for the service of church and state.

1. UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE, was founded by K. Alfred. Dr. John Radcliff instituted two new fellowships for the study of physic, with 600l. a year for maintaining them 10 years, one half of which term they were to travel abroad for their better improvement. He also left 40,000l. for the building of a public library.

2. BALIOL-COLLEGE, was founded by Sir John Baliol, father to the King of Scots, in the time of Hen. III.

3. MERTON-COLLEGE, founded by Walter Merton, Ld. Chancellor and Bishop of Rochester, in the reign of Edw. I. To this college belongs what is called Pythagoras's school, which was formerly Merton's dwelling house.

4. Oriel-COLLEGE; the founder was Edw. II. to it St. Bartholomew's, near this city, was annexed by Edw. III. for its scholars to retire to in case of a pestilence.

5. EXETER-COLLEGE, for the benefit of the western counties, by Walter Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter, in the reign of Edw. II.

6. QUEEN'S-COLLEGE; the founder was Robert Eglesfield, B. D. in the time of Edw. III. Towards the finishing of its new buildings, the late Q. Caroline gave 1000l.

7. NEW-COLLEGE, founded by William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, and Lord Chancellor in the reign of Edw. III. Its hall, next to that of Christchurch, is the largest of any in either university; and its chapel, both for height and ground-plot, exceeds

every other in Engl. except that of King's-college in Cambridge.

8. LINCOLN-COLLEGE, owes its foundation to Richard Fleming, Bishop of Lincoln, in the reign of Henry VI.

2. ALL SOULS-COLLEGE, was founded for offering up prayers for the souls of all who fell in the wars of Henry V. in France, by Henry Chicheley, Archbishop of Canterbury. Colonel Codrington, a member of it, left 6000l. for building a library, and 4000l. to be laid out in books, besides his own collection.

10. MAGDALEN'S-COLLEGE, founded by William Wainfleet, Bishop of Winchester, in the time of Henry IV. is remarkable not only for its fine situation and buildings, but for its pleasant groves and shady walks.

11. BRAZEN-NOSE, so called from a hall of that name, which formerly stood there; and a very large nose of brass fixed to its door; was founded by Smith, Bishop of Lincoln, and Robert Sutton, in the reign of Hen. VIII.

12. CORPUS-CHRISTI, had for its founder Richard Fox, Bishop of Winchester, in the time of Hen. VIII.

13. CHRIST-CHURCH, founded by Hen. VIII. Its buildings and quadrangles are very large and splendid. The quadrangle was made a Bishop's see in 1546. In a tower in the front of the college-gate hangs the great bell, called Tom, weighing near 17,000 weight, being upwards of 7 feet in diameter, and near 6 feet high. It is tolled every night 101 strokes, to give warning for shutting up all the gates of the colleges and halls of the university. The late Archbishop Wake left his library to this college, and a cabinet of Medals valued at about 9000l.

14. TRINITY, was in the days of Q. Mary founded by Sir Thomas Pope.

15. ST. JOHN BAPTIST, was in the same reign founded by Sir Tho. White, a merchant of London.

16. JESUS-COLLEGE. Though Q. Elizabeth be claimed by the society as founder, she having furnished the timber for building, it was first founded and endowed

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ed for the natives of Wales by Dr. Hugh Price; and the president is always a Welshman.

17. **WADHAM**, had for its founders Nicholas and Dorothy Wadham, in the reign of James I.

18. **PEMBROKE** was founded by Tho. Tisdale, Esq; and Dr. Richard Whitwick in the same reign.

19. **WORCESTER**, was formerly called Gloucester-hall, until endowed by Sir Tho. Coke, and made collegiate. From the additional buildings, it makes a splendid figure. Dr. George Clarke left 4000*l.* towards the buildings, and 50*l.* a year to be laid out in books; and Mrs. Eaton left 700*l.* a year for the support of 6 fellows, and erecting buildings for them.

20. **HARTFORD**, formerly Hart-hall, was in 1740 erected into a college.

The halls, where gentlemen live at their own expence, excepting a few who have exhibitions, are

1. **St. EDMUND's**, belonging to Queen's-college. 2. **Magdalen** to Magdalen-college. 3. **St. Alban's** to Merton. 4. **St. Mary's** to Oriel; and 5. **New-inn** to New-college.

The colleges are endowed with fellowships, scholarships, &c. most of them are enriched with libraries and other donations, and adorned with beautiful chapels, gardens, groves, cloisters, quadrangles, piazzas, statues, &c. The chief difference between the colleges and halls is this: in the former are sufficient revenues for the maintenance of the master, professors and students: in the latter, gentlemen live, either wholly or in part, at their own charge.

Other public buildings are:

1. The **SCHOOLS**, a stately pile, wherein exercises for the several degrees are performed; the public lectures read, &c. first built by Q. Mary; the structure, as at present, was chiefly raised by Sir Tho. Bodley, whose library here is famous throughout Europe for its prodigious number of valuable books and manuscripts.

2. The **THEATRE**, a magnificent fabric, not to be equalled by any thing of the kind in the world; built by

G. 6.

Sheldon,

Sheldon, Archbishop of Canterbury, under the direction of Sir Christopher Wren, at the expence of 15000*li*.

3. The **MUSEUM**, of which the lower part is a chymical elaboratory, and the upper a repository of natural and artificial rarities and Roman antiquities; also a library and a large physic garden.

4. The **CLARENDON** Printing-house, which surpasses every thing of the kind in the world. It is a strong building, 115 feet in length, besides the spacious porticos in the N. and S. fronts, which are supported by detached columns of the Doric order. The top of it is adorned with the nine muses, Homer, Virgil, and Thucydides. One part of the building is wholly appropriated to the printing bibles and common prayer books; and the other to the printing of books in the learned languages. Here are also particular rooms for a letter founder; rolling-presses for printing the Oxford almanack, and other sculptures proper for ornamenting books. It was first founded in 1711, and built partly with the money arising to the university from the sale of Lord Clarendon's history of the rebellion.

The persons maintained by the revenues of the colleges are about a thousand; and such as live at their own charge about two thousand, besides the servants belonging to the colleges and halls, which have each their statutes, with fellows and tutors. Here are 4 terms in the year for public exercises, lectures and disputations, and set days and hours when the professors of every faculty read their lectures; and in some of the colleges are public lectures for all comers, with large salaries for the readers. The magistrates are, 1. the Chancellor, usually a distinguished peer, who is chosen by the university, and continues in that office usually for life. 2. A High-steward, nominated by the Chancellor, and approved by the university; he is also for life, and assists the Chancellor, &c. In matters of government he hears and determines capital causes, and gives judgment as to university-privileges. 3. A Vice-Chancellor, who is always in holy orders, and the head of some college; he exercises the Chancellor's power, and residing upon the spot,

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spot, has in fact the government of the university; and chooses four Pro-Vice-Chancellors out of the heads of colleges to officiate in his absence. 4. Two Proctors, who are masters of arts, chosen yearly in turns out of the several colleges, to punish disorders, oversee weights and measures, regulate scholastic exercises, &c. 5. A public Orator, who writes letters by order of convocation, and harangues princes, or other great personages who visit the university. 6. A keeper of the Archives. 7. A register. 8. Three squire beadles, and three yeomen beadles. 9. A verger, who on solemn occasions walks before the Vice-Chancellor with a silver rod in his hand. This city had the same privileges granted it by antient charters as the city of Lond. and toll-free all over Engl. and is also a corporation. It has 13 parish churches, besides the cathedral, with spacious, clean and regular streets; is one of the largest cities in Engl. (including the colleges, which make about two thirds of it) and is subject to the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor in all affairs of moment, even relating to the town.

NEW-WOODSTOCK, 6 miles from Oxford, 63 from Lond. lies in a woody part of the country, as is implied by its name. It is famous for the settlement of the honour and manor for ever, on the famous John Duke of Marlborough and his descendants, male or female, as a reward for his victories, particularly those in 1704, over the French and Bavarians at Blenheim: and that there might be a lasting monument of the glory he gained on that day, a stately palace, by the name of Blenheim-house, was erected here at the public charge, which is one of the noblest seats belonging to any subject in Europe. For this tenure, the Duke's descendants are obliged, by way of homage, to present a standard to the sovereign every year on August 2, the day that battle was fought. K. Ethelred is said to have called a council at Woodstock. Hen. I. made some additions to the town, and walled round the park (said to be the first that ever was enclosed in England) where instead of deer, he kept lions, tygers, panthers, &c. Hen. II. built that labyrinth here, called Rosamond's Bower, to se-
crete

crete his concubine, Fair Rosamond, from his Queen, who however found her out; and Rosamond dying soon after, there is a tradition that she was poisoned. No part, however, of this bower remains. A spring in the park, in which she is supposed to have bathed, still bears her name.

BANBURY, 17 miles from Oxford, 75 from Lond. is a large town on the river Charwell, on the edge of Northamptonshire. There is very good land hereabout, especially rich meadows; and in the fields near it, Roman coins are often found. Here is a fine large church, and a free school.

Chief towns, not parliamentary, are

HENLEY UPON THAMES, 35 miles from Lond. is the eldest in the county, a town of good wealth and handsome buildings, situated most pleasantly on the side of the river, which is navigable to it by barges. Its chief trade is in malt and corn, of which, it is thought, 300 cart loads are often sold here on a market day; and its inhabitants live by carrying corn and wood to Lond. The bridge, which is now of timber, was antiently of stone. Here is a free grammar school, and a blue-coat school for teaching and cloathing poor children, and putting them out apprentices.

DORCHESTER, 49 miles from Lond. has a large stone bridge over the Thames, and a fine church, is a place of great antiquity and dignity, was formerly an episcopal see and had 5 churches, now a small unfrequented village. Its see was translated to Lincoln in the reign of William the Conqueror, which, together with turning the high road to Lond. another way, so hurt the town, that scarce any vestige remains of its former grandeur.

THAME or TAME, 10 miles from Oxford, 45 from Lond. is an old town, standing just where the river, from which the town and hundred take their name, enters Buckinghamshire. Its situation is very pleasant, being watered by the Thames on the N. and by small brooks that glide by on the E. and W. sides of it. It is a large town, with a fine church, in one great street; the market well furnished with live cattle, and all kinds of

of provisions, and the river navigable to it by barges. It has a beautiful free school, and an alms-house.

WHITNEY or WITNEY, 5 miles from Woodstock, 64 from Lond. a long straggling place on the river Windrush, is a town of great antiquity. It has a trade in spinning for the neighbouring clothiers; but its greatest manufacture is rugs and blankets; It is said they work up 100 packs of wool here in a week; and as the blankets are noted for whiteness, some think it owing to their being washed in Windrush waters, which have a more absterfivè and nitrous quality than any other: They also make duffles here, which are exported to Virginia and New England; also cuts for hammocks, and tilt cloaths for bargemen: here is likewise considerable business done by fellmongers in the town, who dressing and straining sheep skins, make them into jackets, breeches, &c. Here is a free school liberally endowed, and a good library adjoining to it.

BURFORD, 5 miles from Whitney, 71 from Lond. Its market is of much note for saddles.

CHIPPING-NORTON. 74 miles from Lond. from its prænomèn, which is a corruption of the Saxon Ceapan to cheapen, seems to have been a market in the time of the Saxons. Here Roman coins are frequently found; and the church is built after a curious model, in which there are monuments, with so many names of merchants on brass plates, as shew it to have been formerly a place of great trade.

BAMPTON, 5 miles from Burford, 69 from Lond. lies on a river navigable by boats; and its market is noted for fellmongers wares, as leather jackets, gloves, breeches, &c. which supply many adjacent counties, no other town in Engl. having such a trade for these wares.

BICESTER, BURCESTER, or BISSETER, 6 miles from Woodstock, 54 miles from Lond. is a long straggling town, remarkable for excellent malt liquor, but more so in antiquity, for having had a famous castrum on the W. side of it, called Aldchester, where great numbers of Roman coins, and other antiques, have been ploughed up.

DEDDINGTON, or **DADDINGTON**, 4 miles from Banbury, 60 from Lond. a pretty large town, where was antiently a castle, but of which few marks now remain.

The other antiquities of this county are :

1. The **ROLLE RICH-STONES** in the W. part of it ; they are a number of huge stones placed in a circle like those at Stonehenge, which some have thought to be monuments of a victory ; others a burying place ; others a place for the coronation of the Danish kings ; and that Rollo, their general, being proclaimed king here by his soldiers, was the occasion of their being set up.

At **STUNSFIELD**, a large tessellated Roman pavement was discovered 1713, consisting of small square stones and bricks of 6 different colours strongly cemented ; and near Great Tew another has been found, consisting of red, white, blue, and yellow cubical pieces, so disposed as to form various beautiful figures.

Near **WOODEATON**, British coins have been found, of Cunobeline, who reigned here about the time of the birth of Christ. On one side is the figure of a horse with an ear of corn over, and Cuno under him ; and on the reverse another such ear with Camu for Camalodunum, or Malden, in Essex, where the pieces were struck.

In a common near the Roman Ikenild-street, a large urn was found in 1720, full of coins, some as old as Julius Cæsar's arrival in this island.

ISLIP, is noted for the birth and baptism of Edward the Confessor. The font is now in possession of Sir George Brown, at Kiddington, where it is set on a pedestal in his garden.

In the N. W. corner of the county are the three shire stones, being the boundaries of Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, and Warwickshire.

ANTIQUITIES.

EYNHAM-ABBEY, near Oxford, founded in the year 1005.

COLD NOXTON PRIORY, founded in the reign of Hen. II. for black canons. Bp. Smith, who purchased it

it in the reign of Hen. VIII. gave it to Brasen-Nose-college. **GODSTON NUNNERY**, in the neighbourhood of Oxford, was built by the prioress Editha, A. D. 1138. **MINSTER DOVEY PRIORY**.

SEATS.

The Duke of Marlborough's, **BLLENHEIM-HOUSE**, (mentioned before under New Woodstock.) The ascent to it is through a long avenue over a bridge of one arch, 190 feet in diameter (like the celebrated Rialto at Venice) which alone cost 20,000l. The gardens take up the space of 100 acres. The chapel, saloons, galleries and other apartments are extremely magnificent, with statues, paintings, and rich furniture, especially the tapestry, in which the first Duke's principal battles are curiously woven. Besides a triumphal arch erected to the Duke's memory at the entrance into the castle, there is a vast obelisk in the principal avenue, on which are recorded the Duke's campaigns and character. This palace, however, has been much censured. Sir John Vanbrugh was the architect, on whom a wag proposed the following epitaph:

Lie heavy on him earth, for he
Laid many a heavy load on thee!

ADDERSBURY, the Countess Dowager of Dalkeith's. **DITCHELEY**, near Blenheim; a noble seat, belonging to the Earl of Litchfield. **Earl of Shrewsbury's**, at Heythorp. **Rycot**, the Earl of Abingdon's, at Rycot. **Earl of Plymouth's**, at Charlbury. **Lord Cadogan's**, at Cavertham, near Reading. **Earl of Macclesfield's**, at Sherburn-castle. **Darl Harcourt's**, at Stanton-Harcourt. **HANWELL-PARK**, near Banbury; the seat of Sir Jonathan Cope, Bart. where is a clock that moves by water, and shews the time, by the rise of a new sun, for every hour, moving in a hemisphere of wood, each sun having

having in its center a figure for the hour: for instance, One, which, ascending half way to the zenith of the arch, shews it to be a quarter past one, at the zenith, half an hour; whence descending half way towards the horizon, three quarters; and at last absconding under it, there rises another sun above the horizon at the other side of the arch, bearing the figure 2; and so of the rest.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

IS bounded on the E. by Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire; on the S. by Somersetshire and Wiltshire; on the N. by Worcestershire; and on the W. by Herefordshire and Monmouthshire: It is about 56 miles in length, 22 in breadth, and 156 in circumference; contains 13 hundreds, one city, 27 market towns, 280 parishes, one castle, 2 forests, 19 parks, and about 800,000 acres. It is watered by several large rivers, as the Severn, the Wye, the Avon, the Isis, the Ledan, the Froome, the Stroud, the Wimbush, and other lesser streams. The soil is different in different parts; hilly in the E. woody in the W. but the middle enriched with a charming and fertile vale. It abounds with all sorts of grain, cattle, fowl, and game.

GLOUCESTER, 100 miles from Lond. a well built, clean, healthy city, secured by the river on one side, a branch of which brings up vessels of a considerable burthen to its walls. It has a beautiful cathedral, and 5 churches, and exceedingly well provided with hospitals. The cathedral is an ancient but magnificent fabric, and has a tower said to be one of the neatest and most curious pieces of architecture in Engl. and a whispering place, as in the cupola of St. Paul's. It has beautiful cloysters; and 12 chapels in it, with the arms and monuments of great persons. Aldred, Archbishop of York, who crowned Wm. the Conqueror, built and finished this cathedral, about the year 1061, but the N. isle, the large

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large cloister, the Virgin Mary's chapel, the tower, &c. were added by succeeding Abbots. Abbot Parker was the last, in whose time the abbey was resigned to Hen. VIII. by the Prior, but not by the Abbot. The great bell in the tower weighs 6000lb. weight, and requires eight men to ring her. K. Edw. II. who was murdered at Berkeley-castle; K. Osrick of Northumberland; and Robert Curthose, Duke of Normandy, eldest son to Wm. the Conqueror, lie buried here. Here is an elegant stone bridge over the river, with a key wharf, and custom-house; abundance of crosses and statues of the kings of England are dispersed in different parts of the city, and large remains of monasteries. Its town-hall for the assize is called the Booth-hall. Under the bridge is a curious machine which raises water to serve the town: though it is also supplied from Robin Hood's Well, which is a mile or two out of the city.

CIRENCESTER, commonly called Ciceter, 88 miles from Lond. and 15 from Gloucester, is the oldest and largest town in the county. Antient coins have been often dug up in and near it, together with pillars and pavements, supposed to have been those of a temple and bath. It has only one church, that of St. John, which has 5 chapels joining to it, and a lofty tower. Two of the Roman consular ways cross each other at this place, one of which is still visible with a high ridge. This town is much noted for the woollen manufacture. Most of the windows of the church and its chapels have the remains of fine painted glass, representing all the orders of the church of Rome from the Pope to the Mendicant.

TWICKSBURY, 104 miles from Lond. stands at the conflux of the Severn and Avon from Warwickshire, which, with the Carron and Swilgate, 2 other little rivers, encompass it. It is a large, beautiful, populous town, of which the chief manufacture is woollen cloth and stockings. It consists of 3 well built streets, and many side lanes, and has 3 bridges over the 3 rivers. Here is a noble church with a stately tower, and several monuments of great men. The cloathing trade here is the

the better accommodated, by reason of its nearness to Cotswold-hills and Stroud-water, of which the former furnish the fleece and the latter the dye. The town has been long noted for the mustard balls made here. The abbey was erected about the year 715, by Odo and Dudo, Dukes of Mercia, but rebuilt and enlarged A. D. 1102, by Robert Fitz-Hamon.

CAMDEN, 86 miles from Lond. stands on the edge of Worcestershire, and is famous for the manufacture of stockings. Has a very large handsome church with noble monuments of marble, of which the most sumptuous is for Sir Baptist Hicks, who gave 10,000*l.* in his lifetime for building and endowing an alms-house, and was otherwise a benefactor to the town.

NEWENT, in the forest of Dean, 17 miles from Gloucester, 110 from London, lies W. of the Severn on a river navigable by boats, and has its name from an inn called the New Inn. It has a handsome church, with many gentlemen's houses in it.

DEAN, 5 miles from Newent, 112 from Lond. is another town in the same forest. Cloth was once, but pins are now, its chief manufacture; the owners of lands here dig up old iron cinders, which they sell at a good price to the furnaces.

CHELTENHAM, 9 miles from Gloucester, 95 from Lond. so called from the small river Chilt, that rises at Dowdeswell, and runs through this parish into the Severn. It has a considerable trade in malt, and is much frequented on account of its mineral waters, which are much of the same quality as those of Scarborough. The minister of this parish must be a fellow of Jesus college, nominated by that society, approved of by the Earl of Gainborough, and can hold it no longer than 6 years.

STOW ON THE WOULD, 11 miles from Cheltenham, 77 from Lond. is called in old records, Stow St. EDWARDS. Its fairs are famous for hops, cheese, and sheep. The church stands on a hill, has a high tower and several monuments. By its high situation it is so greatly exposed, that it is a common saying, they have but one element, viz. air, there being neither wood,
common

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common field, nor water belonging to the town. The Roman Fosse-way passes through this place.

NORTH LEECH, 3 miles from Stow, 80 from Lond, is a town on the river Leche, which falls into the Thames near Letchlade. This parish has a neat church, several alms-houses and a grammar school.

PAINSWICK, 4 miles from Gloucester, 101 from Lond, pleasantly situated on the river Stroud, which is a great convenience to the woollen manufacture carried on here. Its air is esteemed exceedingly good.

STROUD, 101 miles from Lond, stands on a hill, at the foot of which runs the river commonly called Stroud-water, famous for its peculiar quality in dying scarlet broad-cloth, and all other grain colours in the best manner; for this reason many clothiers live near. And for 20 miles on the banks of this river, mills and other conveniencies are erected for fulling, &c.

BERKELEY, 112 miles from Lond, 15 from Gloucester. The parish is large, but lies very low; and is not esteemed a healthy or pleasant village. Berkeley castle was formerly much larger and stronger than at present. Edward II. was for some time imprisoned in this castle, and the room in which he was confined is still to be seen.

DURSLEY, 5 miles from Berkeley, 107 from Lond. The most remarkable thing here is a rock of stone without any chop or chasm in it, of an incredible durance, yet soft in hewing, and called by the inhabitants puff stone. The walls built with it shew but little decay after 500 years.

FAIRFORD, 6 miles from Ciceter, 20 from Gloucester, 80 from Lond, has 2 large bridges over the Coln. Many medals and urns are frequently dug up hereabout. Fairford church is much famed throughout Europe for its excellent painted glass: it has 28 large windows, on which are represented in beautiful colours and exquisite drapery, proper attitudes, and curious perspectives, the most striking passages of the old and new testament; and some of them so consummately finished, that Sir Anthony Vandyke affirmed the pencil could not exceed them.

them. The paintings were designed by that eminent Italian, Albert Dürer, and taken in a prize ship bound for Rome, by John Fane, a merchant in London, who brought both glass and workmen into England; and having purchased this manor of Hen. VII. in 1493, founded and built this church for the sake of the glass, and proportioned the windows exactly to each history. The church is a beautiful pile, of a spacious body, with a handsome and well adorned tower, supported by elegantly fluted pillars. Four of the windows represent the persecutions of the church, with devils over their heads, portrayed in the most terrifying manner.

It is observable, in these, that the late persecutors precede the former; an irregularity occasioned by the civil war, when the glass was taken down, and preserved from the violence of the times; and when put up again, for want of skilful hands, was misplaced. The remaining four windows represent the twelve Roman emperors, preservers of the church, with angles over them. In the sixteenth window is a piece of glass representing rubies and diamonds, reckoned of great value. The lead of some of the windows is so admirably disposed among the darker shades, as not to be easily discovered.

LETCHLADE, 2 miles from Fairford, 77 from Lond. lies on the Thames near the confines of Berkshire and Oxfordshire, in the road from London to Gloucester. It is supposed to have been a Roman town, there being a very plain Roman road that runs from it to Ciceter. The Thames, after having been formed here by the conjunction of the Lech, the Coln, the Churn and Isis, begins to be navigable, and it has a good trade to and from London, in butter, cheese, and other goods.

THORNBURY, 22 miles from Gloucester, 120 from Lond. stands 2 miles from the Severn on a rivulet that runs into it. There are still to be seen the foundations of a magnificent castle, which was never finished. Its church is large, in form of a cathedral, with spacious ayles on each side, a cross, and a beautiful high tower.

AUST,

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AUST, is situate on a craggy cliff, on a bank of the Severn. The ferry over the Severn here being found very inconvenient, there is another 2 miles lower, which is reckoned safer. Aust has a neat chapel, with a high tower at the W. end, adorned with pinnacles.

WOTTON UNDER-EDGE, 7 miles from Thornbury, 108 from London, is a pretty town, long noted for making cloth: it stands on a pleasant and fruitful rise; and has a free school and an alms-house.

TETBURY, a handsome populous town, 99 miles from London, in a healthy air and rising ground; but water is so scarce in a dry summer, that the inhabitants are at a great expence to procure it. The Avon has its source in it, which runs through Bath and Bristol into the Severn; and at the town's end there is a long and high bridge. Here is a large handsome church, a free school, and an alms-house: at Kingfoot, in the neighbourhood, Roman coins have been often found.

CHIPPING SODBURY, a very antient town, 12 miles from Bristol, has a spacious church, a chapel, and a good market, especially for cheese. The bailiff and burghers have a power to distribute 88 cow pastures to as many of the inhabitants, and 8 acres of meadow for their own lives, and those of their widows.

MARSHFIELD, 5 miles from Bath, 104 from Lond. consists chiefly of one street of old buildings near a mile long. It carries on a good trade in malt. Here is a large church, and well endowed alms-houses.

KINGSWOOD, the name of a forest near Bristol, containing about 5000 acres, consists chiefly of coal mines. The houses here are very compact, as in a market town; and the cloth manufacture has made it populous. On the edge of this forest, near the bank of the Avon, are the famous works for smelting copper.

CLIFTON, one mile from Bristol, has about 1000 houses, and is noted for its hot well; and for those rocks called St. Vincent's, which afford a view pleasing and terrible. They are steep and craggy, and the river between them so narrow, that it appears like a canal cut out for the passage of ships. *See Bristol, p. 27.*

PUCKLE-

PUCKLE-CHURCH, 6 miles from Gloucester, was once the residence of several Saxon Kings, the remains of whose buildings are still visible. The church is pretty large, and has several good monuments.

Other antiquities and natural curiosities are

A curious pavement of Mosaic work, discovered 1722 at Woodchester, 9 miles from Gloucester, of considerable extent, which represents birds and beasts in their natural colours, and is adorned with great variety of beautiful devices.

PEN-PARK-HOLE, where was formerly a pit of lead ore, has a narrow descent, near 40 yards deep, into a rock, where it opens to a large cave, in which is a spring of sweet water, though the lowest part of the pool is 20 yards higher than the highest tide of the Severn, which is 3 miles distant.

Star stones, like cockles and oysters, and serpentine stones and scollops, curiously figured, are found about the Avon, and on the hills near Aldersey, and at Lefington, near Gloucester, are also found the star stones, so called from their points resembling the figure of a star. They are of a greyish colour, and move when put into vinegar.

HALES ABBEY, built by Richard Plantagenet, 2d son to King John, for Cistercian monks.

ST. BRIANT'S CASTLE, in the forest of Dean. Here a Mine Court is held.

THORNBURY CASTLE, begun A. D. 1571, by Stafford Duke of Buckingham, who did not live to complete it.

SEWDLY CASTLE, built by Ralph de Boteler, Lord Treasurer to Hen. VI.

BEVERTON CASTLE, a very ancient and strong structure, belonging originally to the family of Berkeley.

LUCOCK NUNNERY, founded by Elizabeth, daughter of William Devreaux, Earl of Rosme and Salisbury.

BRADENSTOCK PRIORY, built by Walter d'Evereux, in the reign of William the Conqueror.

LANTONY

GLOUCESTERSHIRE. 145

LANTONY PRIORY, was built by the monks of Gloucestershire, under the protection of Milo of Gloucester.

GLOUCESTER PRIORY, built by King Athelstan.

SEATS.

The Duke of Beaufort's, at Badmington Magna, which, for its large parks, pleasant walks, elegant gardens, variety of fountains, and noble mansion-house, may be justly classed among the most compleat in England.

Earl of Berkeley's, at Berkeley-castle.

Earl of Coventry's, at Courfe-court, near Tewksbury.

Earl of Stafford's, at Stowel, 13 miles from Gloucester.

Earl of Gainsborough's, Camden-house, 18 miles from Gloucester; here are only remains of a once noble house, but burnt down in the civil wars, to prevent its being made a garrison for the parliament's army.

Lord Weymouth's, at Kemsford, near Lechlade.

Lord Bathurst's, at Cirencester.

Earl of Hertford's, at Sandywell, near Cheltenham.

Lord Gage's, at High Meadows, near Monmouth.

Earl of Hardwick's, at Hardwick, near Gloucester.

Lord Clifford's, at King's Weston.

Sir Robert Cann's, at Stoke-bishop.

Mr. Couzin's, on the edge of Durdham Downs, near Bristol.

STOKE-LODGE, near Bristol, Duchess Dowager of Beaufort.

Sir William Codrington's, at Doddington.

BLAZE-CASTLE, at Henbury, Thomas Farr's, Esq;

COWBERLEY, 8 miles from Gloucester, the ancient seat of the Howes.

The seat of the late James Lambe, Esq; near Fairford: the gardens and wilderness belonging to which are curiosities generally connected with that of Fairford church. See Fairford.

Mr. Hayward's, at Quedgley, and Mr. Cook's, at Hayman, both in the neighbourhood of Gloucester.

Mrs. Elton's, at Ashley, near Bristol.

MONMOUTHSHIRE

WAS formerly part of Wales, and as such described by Camden and others; but has been reckoned part of England since the reign of Charles II. when it was added to the Oxford circuit. It is bounded on the E. by the rivers Wye and Monnow, the former separating it from Gloucestershire, and the latter from Herefordshire; and on the W. by the Romney, which divides it from Glamorganshire; on the N. by Brecknockshire and Herefordshire; and on the S. by the Severn Sea. It is about 29 miles in length, 20 in breadth, and 84 in circumference; contains 6 hundreds, 8 market towns, 127 parishes, and about 6490 houses. The E. parts are woody, the W. mountainous, but in general fruitful; the hills feed numbers of cattle, sheep, and goats; the vallies produce plenty of grass and corn.

MONMOUTH, 12 miles from Hereford, 125 from London, gives a name to the county, and has its own from the mouth of the river Minwy, at which it is situated. It stands pleasantly between that river and the Wye, over each of which it has a bridge. It has been a place of note ever since the conquest; for the castle, now in ruins, was a stately edifice at that time. There are still remaining such parts of its fortifications, as shew that it was formerly very strong; and, by its natural situation, might easily be made so again. The town is in a manner surrounded by water, there being another river, the Trothy, over which it has also a bridge. It has a stately church, the E. end of which especially, is curiously built. The place carries on a considerable traffic with Bristol by means of the Wye.

CHEPSTOW, 130 miles from London, near the mouth of the Wye, over which it has a bridge, was a place formerly of great note, and is still populous. It was formerly walled round and had a castle, part of which still remains; as also a monastery, the remaining part of which is converted into a parish church. The name is of Saxon original, and denotes that it was then a place

of trade and commerce. The old Venta Silurum is about 4 miles from it; and some affirm it arose out of the ruins of that ancient city. It is built on a hill close by the river, and has several fields and orchards within its walls. It is the port for all the towns that stand on the rivers Wye and Lug; ships of good burthen come up to it, and the tide flows here in a violent manner, rising commonly 6 fathom or more at the bridge, which is a noble fabrick of timber, no less than 70 feet high from the surface of the water when the tide is out. As half of it is in Gloucestershire, it is maintained at the expence of both counties. A beautiful Roman pavement was discovered here in 1689.

ABERGAVENNY, 140 miles from London, has its name from the river Gaveny, which falls below it into the Usk. It is encompassed with a wall, has a strong castle, drives a great trade in flannel, and is a great thoroughfare from the W. part of Wales to Bristol by Chepstow, from Monmouth to Gloucester.

PENELOPE, 139 miles from London, a small town, chiefly noted for its iron mills.

CAERLEON, 144 miles from London, has a wooden bridge over the Usk, and was formerly the seat of a Roman legion, and in the time of the Britons, a kind of university and archbishop's see, removed afterwards to St. David's. The houses are of stone, but the fortifications are in ruins. At Caerleon are still the remains of temples, palaces, theatres and baths; which shew what was the grandeur of the place in the time of the Romans, who called it Iscar. Gold-Cliff, the most southern part of the county, reflects a bright glittering white when shone upon, which makes some suspect there is a mine there.

ANTIQUITIES.

TINTERN ABBEY, founded about the year 1131, by Walter Fitz-Richard de Clare.

LANTONY ABBEY, situated on the river Hodery. It was originally a hermitage inhabited by St. David.

USK-CASTLE, situated on the river of the same name. It was once a magnificent structure, and has still considerable remains.

NEWPORT CASTLE, at the mouth of the river Usk.

Between Caerleon and Christ-church, a free-stone coffin was discovered in the last century, in which was inclosed an iron frame, where lay a skeleton, supposed to be that of some person of distinction, from a gilt alabaster statue found near it, representing a man in armour. In one hand of the statue was a short sword, and in the other a pair of scales. In the right-hand scale was the bust of a virgin, which was outweighed by that of a globe in the other scale. The remains of this figure are preserved in the Ashmolean Repository at Oxford.

SEATS.

TROY HOUSE, Duke of Beaufort's, near Monmouth.

RAGLAND CASTLE, Duke of Beaufort's, nine miles from Monmouth.

Lord Abergavenny's, at the town of that name.

Earl of Powis's, at St. Julian's, near Caerleon.

PERSFIELD, near Chepstow, a fine romantic seat, belonging to Mr. Morris, commanding a most beautiful prospect.

HEREFORDSHIRE

IS bounded on the E. by Worcestershire and Gloucestershire; on the N. by the county of Salop. It is about 35 miles in length, 30 in breadth, and 108 in circumference; containing one city, 8 market towns, 2 forests, 8 parks, 11 hundreds, 176 parishes, 391 villages, and about 660,000 acres. It is remarkably fruitful, abounding in pasture, wheat, wool, water and wood. It is watered by the Wye, Frome, Ludon, Lug, Wadel, Arrow, Dare, Monow, and other lesser streams. Its cyder, of which it produces great quantities, is far superior to that of any other county in England.

HEREFORD,

HEREFORD, the only city in this county, 130 miles from London, has a good stone bridge of 8 arches over the Wye, and is encompassed by rivers on all sides but the W. Its name signifies the ford of an army, it having been for several hundred years the head quarters of the Saxons before the conquest, and of the English afterwards, who were stationed here to keep the Welsh in awe. Before the civil wars it had six, but now only four churches. The cathedral is a magnificent structure, and contains monuments of its ancient prelates. The Bishop's castle, the close with the dignitaries houses, and the college of the vicars and choristers, are pleasantly situated. It is a large, but not very populous city; the houses old and mean, and the streets dirty, by reason of its low situation.

LEOMINSTER, OF LEMSTER, 137 miles from London, is a populous borough town with a beautiful church, and several bridges over the Lug. It is a great thoroughfare to and from London, and its fairs are noted for horses, black cattle, and a vast trade for wool and wheat. It lies in a rich valley, through which 3 rivers run swiftly, besides others very near, on which the inhabitants have mills, and other machinery for various branches of trade. The ruins of a palace are still to be seen on a neighbouring hill, called Comfort Castle.

WROBLY, 141 miles from London, is an antient borough, but very mean.

KYNETON, 8 miles from Lemster, 150 from London, a large old town on the river Arrow, inhabited chiefly by clothiers, who drive a good trade in narrow cloths, and its market is considerable.

LEDBURY, 10 miles from Hereford, 118 from Lond. is a well-built town, noted for clothiers; in a rich clay ground under Malvern hills.

ROSS, 8 miles from Ledbury, 115 from London, is a populous well-frequented town, on account of its market and fairs, which are well stored with cattle and other provisions. The Man of Ross, so much celebrated by Mr. Pope, lived here, and here lies buried.

ANTIQUITIES.

GOODRICK CASTLE, situated on the river Wye.

BRANSTILL CASTLE, at the foot of the W. side of Malvern hills, encompassed by a double ditch; and appears to be a place of antiquity. There was of late years discovered in it a cavern, not yet opened.

A well below Richard's Castle, full of small fish-bones, as Camden thinks; and whenever it is emptied, a fresh supply always succeeds, thence called Bone Well. It is near Croft Castle, in the park of which is a large camp with two great ditches, called the Ambry.

MARCLAY HILL, near the confluence of the Lug and Wye, about 6 miles east of Hereford, was, in the year 1575, after shaking and roaring in a terrible manner, for three days together, about six o'clock on Sunday evening, put in motion, and continued moving for eight hours, in which time it advanced upwards of 200 feet from its former situation, and mounted 12 fathom higher than it was before. In the place whence it set out, it left a gap 400 feet long, and 320 broad, and in its progress overthrew a chapel, belonging to a village called Kinnaston, together with all the trees, houses, and every thing that stood in its way; carrying with it the trees that grew upon it, with sheep folds, and some flocks of sheep that were grazing on it.

At EATON WALL upon the Wye, 2 miles from Hereford, is a camp of about 30 or 40 acres, the works single.

At CRADEN HILL, near Kenchester, is another very great camp and prodigious works, the grass being inwards and outwards, and taking up above forty acres.

In DINDER parish is another camp, called Oyster Hill.

Near Lanterdin is a Roman camp, called Brandon, a single square work with 4 ports; near which are 2 barrows, where, in 1662, an urn was found with ashes and bones. About a mile from thence, on the other side of the river Bardfield, was the British camp called Croxall, now covered with large oaks.

WIGMORE,

WORCESTERSHIRE 151

WIGMORE, near the Lug, (which together with the Wye, was made navigable in the reign of King William) had formerly a college for secular canons, afterwards converted into a priory. It was built by Hugh de Mortimer, about the year 1179.

SEATS.

ACONBURY, Duke of Chandos, near Hereford.

The Earl of Oxford's, at Brampton-Bryan, 7 miles from Ludlow. This castle belonged for some ages to a family of distinction, called Bryan de Brampton. In the days of Edward III. Robert de Harley married the heirs of this family.

HAMPTON-COURT, two miles from Hereford.

Lord Bateman's, Shopton-Court, 8 miles from Hereford.

Mr. Heir's, at Rothens, near Hereford.

CLIFFORD-CASTLE, on the frontiers of Radnorshire.

HOMER LACY, near Brockhampton, the seat of the Scudamores.

WORCESTERSHIRE

IS bounded on the W. by the counties of Hereford and Salop; on the N. by Staffordshire; on the E. by Warwickshire; and on the S. by Gloucestershire: Is about 38 miles in length, 31 in breadth, and 130 in circumference; contains 7 hundreds, and part of 2 more; one city, 11 market towns, 152 parishes, 500 villages, and about 540,000 acres. The soil is very fruitful, it is watered by the Severn, Stour, Avon and Tine, besides a great number of rivulets.

WORCESTER, 112 miles from Lond. is the capital city of the county, and situated on the banks of the Severn, over which it has a fine stone bridge. The remarkable battle in 1651, when Charles II. was defeated by Cromwell, was fought near the S. gate of the city, where bones of the slain are frequently dug up. The

chief manufactures of the place are broad cloth and gloves and by means of the Severn are in a flourishing condition. The publick buildings make a grand appearance, especially the guildhall and the work-house. It had formerly a castle, and walls, with 3 gates, and 5 watch towers; all long since destroyed. The cathedral, which is exactly the model of that at Brussels, is a large edifice, but not very elegant except the choir of the chapel, on the S. side, which is of very curious workmanship. A handsome library belongs to the cathedral, supported by one single pillar in the middle. Here are the monuments of K. John, Prince Arthur, brother to Hen. VIII. the Countess of Salisbury, and other illustrious persons. Besides the cathedral, there are 12 parish churches. The streets are broad and well-paved; the Foregate-street is regular and beautiful. The hospitals deserve notice, especially that noble one erected by Robert Berkley of Spetchley, who laid out 2000l. in the building, and 4000l. in endowing it for 12 poor men. Besides this, are 6 or 7 others. The Severn, though generally rapid elsewhere, glides by Worcester very gently. Here is a good water house and key.

DRITWICH, or DURTWICH, 5 miles from Worcester, is remarkable for its salt springs, from which, and its wet situation, Camden says it takes its name. It stands on the navigable river Salwarp. It is a corporate bailiwick, with about 400 houses, and 4 churches: is much enriched by its salt works, which may at least be traced as high as the Saxons. The salt is made from 3 briny springs, between which runs a stream of fresh water. It appears from Domesday book, that salt was made here before the Norman conquest.

EVESHAM, 12 miles from Worcester, 95 miles from Lond. is a neat town, with a gentle ascent from the river Avon, over which it has a handsome stone bridge, with a harbour for barges. The town is incorporated, has peculiar powers and privileges, can try and execute for all criminal cases, except high treason: its chief manufacture is that of wool. At the bridge foot is the division of Bengeworth, where was formerly a castle: here are a grammar school

school and a charity school liberally endowed. From this town is an open prospect of the spacious valley, called hence the Vale of Evesham, which affords such abundance of the best corn, as well as pasture for sheep, that it may justly be reckoned the granary of these parts; but its roads, like those in most fruitful countries, are deep and miry. This vale runs all along the banks of the Avon, from Tewksbury to Perihore, and from thence to Stratford upon Avon, in the S. part of Warwickshire, to which this fine river is navigable. Evesham is famous in history for a great victory which Prince Edward obtained over the Earl of Leicester.

BEWDLEY, 8 miles from Droitwich, 128 from Lond. sometimes called Beaulieu, from its pleasant situation on the declivity of a hill, on the W. side of the river Severn, over which it has a stone bridge. It is a place of considerable trade; for by means of the Severn great quantities of salt, iron-ware, glass and Manchester goods are put on board barges here, and at Gloucester aboard troughs, for Bristol, Bridgewater, and other ports, which trade renders this a populous thriving town and corporation; but its chief manufacture is caps, which the Dutchmen buy and call Monmouth caps.

KIDDERMINSTER, 2 miles from Bewdley, 125 from Lond. situated on the Stour, not far from the Severn, is a compact town of 5 or 600 houses, enjoying good trade in cloth, and weaving linseys and woolseys. The church is a handsome structure, and a good free school and alms houses are founded here.

STOURBRIDGE, 5 miles from Kidderminster, 118 from Lond. situated on the Stour, over which it has a stone bridge. It has been much enriched by iron and glass works: here are about 10 glass houses, where glass bottles and window glass are made, together with fine stone pots for glass makers to found their metal in: the clay whereof they are made being peculiar to the place: here is also a manufacture of freize cloth, a grammar school and a library. Near this, at Old Samford, is an hospital for 60 poor children.

H 5

BROMS-

BROMSGROVE, 7 miles from Stourbridge, 115 from Lond. situated near the rise of the river Salwarp, has a considerable trade in the cloathing buliness.

PERSHORE, 7 miles from Worcester, 102 from Lond. is a large old town on the river Avon, and has a considerable stocking manufacture. It is said to take its name from the soil's being peculiarly adapted to the pear tree, which thrives remarkably here. The river Bow falls into the Avon near this place, which contains about 300 houses, and has two parish churches.

UPTON, 6 miles from Pershore, 111 from Lond. has a good bridge over the Severn, with a harbour for barges.

Before we quit this shire, we must take notice of Malvern hills, which are great and lofty for 7 miles together, rising one higher than the other, and dividing this county from that of Hereford; on that at the top Gilbert de Clare cast up a ditch, to separate his lands from those of the church of Worcester, which ditch is still to be seen. There are 2 small parishes, called Great and little Malvern, about 2 miles from one another; and also 2 medicinal springs called Holy Wells: much resorted to of late.

ANTIQUITIES.

GREAT MALVERN ABBEY, was in the times of the Saxons an hermitage of Urso d'Abitot; and made a priory in Wm. the Conqueror's reign, by the Hermit Aldwin.

DORN, on the S. side of the shire, where are the ruins of a city, which stood on the Roman Fosse Way. The lines in which the streets run may still be easily traced; and Roman coins have been dug up here.

ABBERTON near **PERSHORE**, is famous for its mineral water, which is bitter and purging, of the nature of Epsom waters.

HARROW-HILL, famous for another medicinal spring, said to be very efficacious in the disorders of the eyes. The water seems to be of a soft smooth nature; yet it is manifest, from the moss growing about it, that it has a petrifying quality.

SEATS.

SEATS.

The Earl of Shrewsbury's, at Grafton, nine miles from Worcester.

Earl of Coventry's, Crome-court, near Worcester.

FELKENHAM-LODGE, and STOKES upon Severn.

Lord Craven's, at Lenchwick, 11 miles from Worcester.

Lord Foley's, Whitley-court, 9 miles from Worcester.

HERTLBURY-CASTLE, the Bishop of Worcester's palace, was begun by Walter de Cantelupe, in the reign of Hen. III. and finished by Giffard Bishop of this see about the year 1268.

WARWICKSHIRE

IS bounded on the W. by Worcestershire; on the S. by the counties of Gloucester and Oxford; by those of Derby and Stafford on the N. and on the E. by Northamptonshire and Leicestershire. It is about 33 miles in length, 22 in breadth, and 122 in circumference: contains 5. hundreds, 158 parishes, 17 market towns, 4 castles, 10 rivers, 13 parks, 2 forests, 780 villages.

This county is divided into 2 parts, the Felden and the Woodland; the former on the S. side and the latter on the N. side of the Avon. The first formerly afforded all the pasture and corn grounds, but the second being covered with woods was of little use, except for fuel; but the iron works in the adjacent counties have so consumed the wood, that they have long since made way for the plough; and, at present by marling and other methods of husbandry, all that part yields abundance of corn, cheese and butter. Felden, which used to supply the other with corn, cheese, and butter, is now in a great measure turned into pasture land. The soil of both produces excellent corn and cheese, especially the latter, which is noted in every part of England.

COVENTRY, 8 miles from Warwick, 91 from Lond. is united with Litchfield in Staffordshire, as a bishoprick. There are many traditional stories relating to this city; particularly that of lady Godiva, who to obtain and perpetuate some privileges, rode naked through the streets: and an annual procession is still made through the town in commemoration of it. The pictures of this lady and her husband, the Earl of Mercia, are set up in Trinity-church windows, with these lines:

I Leofric, for love of thee,
Do make Coventry toll free.

But nobody was to see the naked lady; they shew you the image of a man, called peeping Tom of Coventry, who was miraculously punished, for venturing to look out of his window, in breach of this injunction. They shew also the shoulder bone of a large boar, which Guy Earl of Warwick slew in hunting. The walls of the city are demolished, but the gates which are left standing are noble and beautiful. The Prince of Wales has a large park and domains here, but very ill kept. Two remarkable parliaments were held here called the Learned and Unlearned, alias Devils and Dunces, in the reign of Henry VI. In the reign of Henry VIII. a stately cross was erected here by Sir William Holles, Lord Mayor of London, in the middle of its spacious market place, greatly admired for its workmanship. — It was 66 feet high, adorned with the statues of most of the English kings as big as the life: but the stone it was built with, being sandy and porous, it was so much decayed, that the upper part was taken down a few years since. The city is large and populous, but the buildings are old; and some of them, which are built with timber, project out so much, that in the narrow streets the tops of the opposite houses almost touch. The chief churches are St. Michael's and Trinity. The protestant dissenters are a considerable body here. The town-house is worth seeing, the windows being of painted glass, representing some of the old Kings, &c. who have been benefactors to the city. Its chief manufactures are tammeys, and the weaving of ribbons.

WARWICK, 93 miles from Lond., is the county town, and stands on the river Avon, on an ascent so rocky on all sides, that the ways leading to it are cut through a rock. It has, however, rich pleasant meadows to the S. and lofty groves and spacious parks to the N. It is a town of great note, and of such antiquity, that it is said to have been founded by Kimblecline, one of the British Kings, contemporary with our Saviour. There are 4 ways leading to it, answering the 4 points, which lead through a rock over a current of water, to an equal number of streets, which all meet in the center of the town. The wells and cellars are made in the rock, the descent to which every way renders it both a clean and elegant town. It is supplied with water by pipes from springs half a mile off; and has a noble stone-bridge over the Avon of 12 arches. Here is a castle, the principal ornament of the place, strong both by art and nature: the rock on which it stands is 40 feet from the river; but on the N. side it is even with the town. From its terrace, which is above 50 feet perpendicular above the Avon, there is a prospect of the river, and a beautiful country beyond it. The apartments are well contrived, and many of them adorned with original pictures by Van Dyke, not inferior to some of the royal palaces. It was built originally by William the Conqueror, and now belongs to Earl Brooke. Near the town is Guy's Cliff, a high perpendicular rock, where Guy Earl of Warwick is said to have lived a Hermit after his defeating the Danish giant Colbrand. His sword and other accoutrements are still shewn in the castle.

TAMWORTH, 6 miles from Litchfield, 114 from Lond. is parted in the middle by the river Tame, so that one half of the town is in this county, and the other in Staffordshire, and each part sends a member to parliament. It is a fine pleasant trading town, the most antient in this part of the country; and had a castle where the Mercian Kings often resided. This structure was demolished by the Danes, and lay in ruins till 914, when it was rebuilt by Ethelfleda daughter to Alfred. Here is a grammar school founded by Q. Eliz. and a charitable institution of Mr Guy, who founded that in South-

Southwark, London. There is a considerable trade in narrow cloth and other manufactures in the town.

BIRMINGHAM, 116 miles from Lond. a very large populous town, the upper part of which stands dry on the side of a hill, but the lower is watery, and inhabited by the meaner sort of people. They are employed here in the iron works, in which they are such ingenious artificers, that their performances in the small wares of iron and steel are admired both at home and abroad. It is much improved of late years, both in public and private buildings. Near this town is a seat belonging to Sir Lister Holt, Bart. but converted into public gardens, with an organ and other music, in imitation of Vauxhall; which is the name it now goes by.

STRATFORD, 6 miles from Warwick, 94 from Lond. has a fine stone bridge over the Avon, to which it is navigable by barges. It is a populous town, the chief commodity of which is malt. Here is a grammar school and an alms house; and this place glories in the birth and remains of the inimitable Shakespear, born anno 1564. On his monument are inscribed some wretched verses, and a bust of him in marble. A splendid jubilee was held here in honour of Shakespear, under the management of Mr. Garrick, in 1769. The navigation of this river is of great utility to the whole country, and promotes their trade to Bristol.

AULCESTER, 102 miles from Lond. is a very antient town and corporation, which from the Roman coins often dug up here, was undoubtedly a Roman station. Here is a good market for corn. The Roman way, called Ikenild-street, passeth through this town.

KEYNTON, 88 miles from Lond. at the foot of the hill, has a spring called K. John's Well, which boasts a very fine water. Its market is noted for black cattle.

EDGEHILL, in the neighbourhood, famous for the first battle between Charles I. and the parliament in 1642. It is otherwise called the Vale of Red-Horse, from the form of that animal cut by the country people on the side of the hill, upon a red soil near Tysoe; some neighbouring freeholders are obliged by their tenure to keep it clean

WARWICKSHIRE.

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and in shape: this is usually done on Palm Sunday, on which day the great Earl of Warwick fought the battle of Towton, in 1461. He is said to have killed his horse before the engagement, being determined to conquer or die, this custom is therefore conjectured to have a reference to that circumstance.

ATHERSTON, 103 miles from Lond. on the Stour, is famous for a cheese fair, the greatest in England. Here the cheese-factors purchase great quantities to carry to Stourbridge-fair. It is a tolerably large well-built town.

NUNEATON, 98 miles from Lond. on the river Anker, has a manufacture of woollen cloth. Here are the ruins of a nunnery, founded in the reign of Henry II. for Benedictine nuns.

LEAMINGTON, near **KEYNTON**, is noted for a salt spring, used by the poor to salt their bread.

NEWENHAM-REGIS, over-against Rugby, and near the river Swift, is remarkable for its medicinal waters arising from 3 springs, supposed to be percolated through a mineral of allom. The waters, which are milky in colour and taste, are reckoned good for the stone. They are certainly very diuretic, and close and heal green wounds; being drank with salt they are laxative, and with sugar restraining.

KENELWORTH, in the center of this shire, famous for its noble castle, once a prison for K. Edward II. afterwards a palace to the Earl of Leicester, who entertained Q. Elizabeth and her court here 17 days. Here are also the remains of a priory founded in the year 1136. In this town is carried on a manufacture of ivory and horn combs, and horn for lanthorns.

DOVEBRIDGE, upon the Avon, was antiently a Roman station, called Tripontium. Here the stream divides with two bridges; one of which has an inscription, denoting that it is maintained at the expence of 3 counties.

SEATS.

MALCOT-HOUSE, near **STRATFORD**, Duke of Dorset's.

TAMWORTH-CASTLE, belonging to Earl Ferrers.

COMB-

- COMB-ABBEY, Lord Craven's.
 NEWNHAM-PADDOX, Earl of Denbigh's near Rugby.
 Earl of Northampton's, at Crompton in the Vale.
 Earl of Plymouth's, at Hewell-Grange.
 Viscount Hereford's, at Castle-Bromwich.
 Lord Leigh's, at Stonely-Abbey, five miles from Warwick, and at Flethamsted, near Coventry.
 Earl of Hertford's, at Ragley and Popham.
 Earl Brook's, at Warwick-castle. See Warwick.
 Lord Digby's, at Colehill, 9 miles from Coventry.
 Lord Lyttleton's, Hagley-park.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

IS bounded on the S. by Buckinghamshire; on the W. by Warwickshire and Oxfordshire; and running in a narrow track towards the N. E. in the form of a boat, it borders on more counties than any other in England: for on the N. it is bounded by the counties of Leicester, Rutland, and Lincoln, from which it is parted by the rivers Welland and Little Avon; on the E. by Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire, and Cambridgeshire. It is about 55 miles in length, 26 in breadth, and 125 in circumference; contains 20 hundreds, one city, 10 market towns, 326 parishes, and 551 villages. The soil is very fruitful both in corn and pasture, but fuel scarce. It abounds with sheep and other cattle, and has less waste ground than any other county in England. It is a plain level country, and so populous, that from some places no less than 30 steeples may be seen at one view.

PETERBOROUGH, 81 miles from London, is reckoned the least city, and, except Bristol, the poorest bishoprick in England. It stands upon the river Nen, over which it has a bridge. The cathedral is a most noble Gothic building, but was much more beautiful before the civil wars. It is said to be about 1000 years old, though it seems to be more modern. The W. front is the most stately of any in England, being supported by

3 of the tallest arches any where to be seen, and columns curiously adorned. The windows of the cloysters are finely stained with scripture history, that of its founder, and the succession of its abbots. Here are many curious monuments of illustrious personages, and the figure of one Scarlet, a sexton, who died aged 95, and had buried 2 queens, and all the housekeepers of the city twice over. The streets are wide and well-built, and beside the cathedral, here is a parish church, and a handsome market-house, over which the assizes and sessions are kept. The air here is not esteemed very wholesome, but the water is sweet, the highest spring tide never coming within 5 miles of the town.

NORTHAMPTON, 66 miles from Lond. stands upon the Nen, over which it has 2 bridges. The buildings were handsome, and the town large (having 7 parish churches within the walls, and 2 without) when it was reduced to ashes by a dreadful fire in 1675. Liberal contributions from all parts of the kingdom restored it in a great measure to its original size; and for neatness, beauty, and situation, few towns equal it. It has 4 churches, of which the great one, viz. Allhallows, is a handsome edifice, with a stately portico of 12 lofty Ionic columns, and a statue of K. Charles II. on the balustrade. It stands near the center of the town, and at the meeting of 4 spacious streets. The sessions and assize house is a very beautiful building of the Corinthian order. The market place is one of the finest in Europe. The horse market is thought to exceed any other of the kind in Engl. Its most considerable manufacture is shoes, of which great numbers are exported; the next to that stockings. The walls are 2120 paces in compass. Among the public buildings, which all make a grand appearance, the George Inn looks more like a palace; and as soon as it was finished at the expence of 10000*l*. the owner, John Dryden, generously gave it to the poor. A county hospital is built here after the manner of the infirmaries of London, Bristol, Bath, &c. and the river Nen has lately been made navigable up to the town, which

which will be a means of supplying it with coals, and other heavy goods, at a cheaper rate than heretofore.

BRACKLEY, 13 miles from Northampton, 64 from Lond. near the head of the Ouze, was antiently a famous staple for wood; but since that has been removed, the town has declined. Here are 2 parish churches, and a free grammar school, formerly a college, belonging to Magdalen-college, Oxford.

HIGHAM FERRERS, 20 miles from Brackley, 65 from Lond. is situated on the E. side of the Nen. It is a small, but clean, pleasant, healthful town. It has a handsome church and lofty spire; a free school, and an alms house for 12 men and women. Here are the ruins of a college founded by Chichely, Archbishop of Canterbury.

OUNDLE, as it is called by corruption from Avondale, 10 miles from Peterborough, 9 from Higham-Ferrers, 75 from London, almost surrounded by the Nen, is a pretty little town, with a neat church, a free school and an alms-house. It has 2 good stone bridges over the river, remarkably large, one in the road leading to Thrapston, the other to Yaxley in Huntingdonshire. That called the North Bridge is taken notice of by travellers, for its number of arches, and the causeway that leads to it. This town is noted for a well that is said to make a drumming-noise, against any important event; nobody can give the least rational account of it, though many believe the truth of the tradition.

THRAPSTON, as it is commonly called for Thorpston, 5 miles from Oundle, 74 from London, has a fine bridge over the river in the road to Kettering, and is delightfully situated in a valley pleasant for air, water, and soil.

WELLINGBOROUGH, 7 miles from Northampton, 4 from Higham-Ferrers, 68 from London, on the W. side of the same river, is a large populous town with a fine church, and a charity school for 40 children. This town is noted for its medicinal waters. Q. Mary resided here six weeks to drink these waters. It stands on the S. side of a hill, near the river, and has a considerable market.

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ket for corn, which is their principal trade. Some years since it was almost destroyed by fire.

TOWCESTER, 6 miles from Northampton, 60 from London, in the road to Chester, is a very ancient populous town, consisting of one long broad street. It has a handsome church, and 3 bridges over the 3 streams, into which the little river is here divided. The military way, called Watling-Street, runs through it, and appears very plainly, in the road to Stony Stratford. The inhabitants here, of all ages, are employed upon lace, and a manufacture of Silk.

DAVENTRY, 10 miles from Towcester, 72 from Lond. is a great thoroughfare to and from the N. W. counties, and has many good inns. On Burrough Hill are the remains of an old Roman fortification, which takes in about 200 acres of ground. The Roman Watling-Street was turned through it, and runs to Dunsmore-Heath. The priory belongs to Christ College, Oxford.

KETTERING, 15 miles from Daventry, 75 from Lond. is a handsome town, of good trade, pleasantly situated on a rising ground, by a river that runs into the Nen. It has a sessions-house for the county, a church handsomely built, with a fine spire, and a small hospital. Near 2000 hands are said to be employed here in the making of serges, shalloons, tammies, &c.

ROTHWELL, 2 miles from Kettering, 79 from Lond. is a pretty good town, noted for a horse-fair. Here is a fine stone market house, adorned with the arms of most of the gentry of the county.

ROCKINGHAM, 84 miles from Lond. stands on the river Welland, and has a castle, first built by William the Conqueror.

Remarkable antiquities are,

1. Within the demesnes of Broughton is a petrifying well, from whence a skull all over stone, both within and without, was brought to Sidney college in Cambridge, and there preserved.

1. At

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2. At CORDYKE, near Peterborough, is an antient fofs, a great work of the Romans, for draining the fens and promoting commerce.
3. CASTOR, which seems to have been antiently of great note from chequered pavements found there, with Roman urns, coins, bricks and tiles.
4. At OXENDON, near Kettering, is a remarkable echo that will repeat any sentence of 12 or 13 syllables very distinctly, and is formed by the square tower of the church.
5. Near GOLDSBOROUGH, between the springs of the Avon and Nen was a Roman camp, whose situation was the more remarkable, as it was the only pass between the N. and S. parts of England, not intercepted by any river. The camp was secured only by a single intrenchment, but that very broad and deep.
6. NASEBY, 11 miles from Northampton, supposed to stand in the center, and on the highest ground in England, remarkable for the bloody battle fought there betwixt the forces of K. Charles I. and those of the parliament. Scarce any traces of it now remain but a few holes for the burying of men and horses. It has been said that, pursuant to his last request, Oliver Cromwell was privately interred here.
7. At CULWORTH, 6 miles from Towcester, and its neighbourhood, are found the star-stones. Among other mineral waters are those of Astrop Wells, much recommended for the scurvy, asthma, &c.
8. At CHESTER was a Roman camp of near 20 acres, inclosed with a strong wall, in the area of which have been found many pavements, coins, &c.
9. FOTHERINGHAY-CASTLE, 2 miles from Oundle, on a branch of the Nen, is encompassed with a park and fine meadows. It was formerly of great note; and is memorable for the trial and execution of Mary Queen of Scots there, in 1586.
10. The antient house of Holmby, near Northampton, where K. Charles I. was imprisoned.
11. LITTLE BILLING PRIORY.
12. BARN-

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12. BARNWELL CASTLE, both built by William the Conqueror.

SEATS.

Duke of Grafton's seats, at Grafton Regis, 8 miles from Northampton: and at Wakefield-lodge, in Whitlebury-forest, near Towcester.

The late Duke of Montague's, at Boughton, 12 miles from Northampton, built after a model of the palace of Versailles, with noble paintings in the hall, galleries, &c. and 90 acres of gardens adorned with statues, marble urns, fountains, aviaries, canals, wildernesses, terraces, &c. A fine cascade and river running through the garden.

The Earl of Exeter's, at Burleigh, near Stamford. It is one of the grandest structures in England, and appears more like a town than a house, in which the towers and pinnacles resemble parish churches, and the large spire, covered with lead in the center, a cathedral. It is adorned with statues, paintings, &c. and the gardens are extremely beautiful.

The Earl of Northampton's, at Castle Ashby, 6 miles from Northampton.

Earl of Suffex's, at Easton-Mauduit, near Wellingborough.

Earl of Cardigan's, at Dean, 18 miles from Northampton.

Lord Sondes's, at Rockingham Castle. This structure was originally built by William the Conqueror.

DRAYTON-HOUSE, the seat of Lady Betty Germain.

Earl Ferrers, at Aitwell, near Brackley.

The Earl of Halifax's, at Horton, near Northampton.

Earl of Westmoreland's, at Apethrop, near Oundle.

The Earl of Dyfart's, at Harrington, near Rothwell.

Earl of Peterborough's, at Drayton, 14 miles from Northampton.

Earl of Pomfret's, at Easton. The hall of this seat is finely painted in fresco by Sir James Thornhill. Here was a vast number of antique marble statues, bas-reliefs, urns, altars, &c. being part of the invaluable collection

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

lection of the late Earl of Arundel, now presented to the university of Oxford.

ALTHORP, Viscount Spencer's, 4 miles from Northampton.

Earl of Strafford's, at Boughton, 2 miles from Northampton.

Late Lord Hatton's, at Kirkby, 16 miles from Northampton.

The Earl of Exeter's, at Woodthorp, near Harborough.

THRAPSTON, 16 miles from Northampton, belonging to the Earl of Peterborough.

Lord Craven's, at Winwick, 6 miles from Oundle.

Late Lord Crewe's, at Stone, 8 miles from Towcester.

Late Lord Tadcaster's, at Great Billing, near Northampton.

Lord St. John's, at Woodford.

MILTON, near Peterborough, Earl Fitzwilliam's.

Viscount Cullen's, at Rushton, near Kettering.

Earl of Ossory's, at Firmingwood.

Lord Carbery's, at Laxton.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE

IS bounded on the W. and N. by Northamptonshire; on the S. by Bedfordshire; and on the E. and N. by Cambridgeshire. It is about 25 miles in length, 20 in breadth, and 70 in circumference; contains 4 hundreds, 6 market towns, 79 parishes, 279 villages, 2 rivers, 5 bridges, and about 240,000 acres. This is a great corn country, and the hilly parts afford fine pasture for sheep. The low lands abound with meadows and pastures, which feed abundance of cattle, and in the meers are plenty of fish and wild fowl.

HUNTINGDON, 59 miles from Lond. stands on a small hill in the great N. road, on the N. side of the Ouse, over which it has a stone bridge. It is the constant

stant place for the assize, as well as the county goal, and is a populous trading town, consisting chiefly of one large street well-built, with a handsome market-place, and a good grammar school. More beautiful meadows are not to be seen any where, than on the banks of the river, which, in summer, are covered with numerous herds of cattle, and flocks of sheep. The bridge, or rather bridges, with the causeway, are ornaments, as well as benefits to the town.

GODMANCHESTER, on the other side of the Ouse, tho' not a market town, is reckoned the largest village in England, and so remarkable for husbandry, that no town employs so many ploughs: it is also said no people in the kingdom have so much advanced it. When K. James I. came from Scotland, the inhabitants met him with 70 new ones, drawn by as many teams of horses, for they hold their land by that tenure: and we are told that on a like occasion there has been a procession of 9 score ploughs. Here is a free grammar school of Q. Elizabeth's.

Near this town is the tree, well known to travellers, called Beggar's Bush.

ST. NEOT'S, 6 miles from Huntingdon, 55 from London, is a large well-built town, has a handsome church and a good stone bridge over the Ouse.

At **HAILWESTON**, are 2 springs, one brackish, recommended for cutaneous disorders; the other fresh, for dimness of sight.

ST. IVES, 2 miles and a half from Huntingdon, 59 from London, is a large handsome town. It takes its name from a Persian Bishop, who, about the year 600, is said to have come over to England, preached the gospel, and died at this place. It appears from an old Saxon coin (in the Philosophical Transactions) that it had formerly a mint; and was also once noted for its medicinal waters. Oliver Cromwell was born at this place, of a good family; and, after having wasted his fortune in his youth, turned farmer here, in order to retrieve his shattered circumstances.

RAMSEY, 6 miles from Huntingdon, has one of the best and cheapest markets in England for water fowl;

Ramsey

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Ramsay Isle is entirely encompassed with fens, except on the W. side, where it is connected with the terra firma, by a causeway 2 miles long. This town is surrounded with alders, reeds, &c. that in the spring make a beautiful shew; to which its gardens, corn fields, and rich pastures are no small addition. The neighbouring meers abound with fowl and fish, particularly eels and large pikes, called Hakeds. There is a causeway called King's Delf, raised and paved at a great expence, which runs 10 miles from this place to Peterborough. Ramsay was formerly remarkable for its wealthy abbey, founded by Ailwin Earl of the E. Angles, A. D. 969. In 1721 Roman coins were found here, supposed to have been hid by the monks, upon some incursion of the Danes. The town suffered much by fire 1731. There is little left of the abbey, besides a part of the old gatehouse, and a neglected statue of its founder; the keys and ragged staff in his hand denote his offices. This is reckoned a very ancient piece of English sculpture.

YAXLEY, 9 miles from Huntingdon, 77 from London, is a little town in the fens, upon Whittlesey Meer. The houses are tolerable, and the church has a neat lofty spire.

WHITTLESEY MEER, 8 miles from Huntingdon, in the N. part of the shire, is 6 miles long and 3 broad: the water clear, yet, like other meers, is subject to violent commotions. The air hereabout is thick, foggy and stinking: yet the abundance of fish, pastures, and turf, make amends; and, though the air is fatal to strangers, it is favourable enough to the natives.

KIMBOLTON, 6 miles from Huntingdon, 63 miles from London, has a castle which is reckoned an ornament to the west part of this county. The first Earl of Manchester spared no cost to beautify it: And his great grandson, Charles Duke of Manchester, in a manner rebuilt it.

SEATS.

Earl of Sandwich's, Hinchinbroke, a priory founded and endowed by William the Conqueror.

The

The Earl of Lincoln's at Overton Longvile, 3 miles from Peterborough.

The Marquis of Rockingham's, at Great Gidding, 2 miles from Huntingdon.

The Bishop of Lincoln's, at Bugden, 3 miles from Huntingdon.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE,

INCLUDING the Isle of Ely, is bounded by part of Lincolnshire and Norfolk on the N. by another part of Norfolk, and the county of Suffolk on the E. by Essex and Hertfordshire on the S. and by Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire on the W. being 35 miles long and upwards of 20 broad. The face of the country affords great variety. The N. part, comprehending the Isle of Ely, is all meadow and fen ground, and feeds vast herds of cattle; the numerous lakes, rivers, and canals, which divide the fens, and abound in fish and wild-fowl, give the inhabitants an easy communication with several counties, as well as with the sea, which creates a very brisk trade. On the E. are those fine downs which go by the name of Newmarket Heath, and Gogmagog hills; and on the W. toward Royston, are downs no less extensive, intermixed with corn-fields. The chief rivers are, the Grant, the Ouse, and the Nen, which run generally from W. to E. and having received several lesser streams in their course, fall into the German sea, near Lynn in Norfolk. The tide runs with that violence up the Nen, as far as Wisbich, about either equinox, that it will overset any boat; and the salt waves dashing against each other, in the night-time appear like streams of fire: this is generally called the Eager from the impetuosity of its course. It is divided into 17 hundreds, and contains 8 market towns, 163 parishes, about 279 villages, and 570,000 acres.

CAMBRIDGE, 52 miles from London, is so called from its situation on the banks of the Cam, which forms several

veral islands on the W. side, and divides the town into two parts, which are joined by a large stone bridge. It is very ancient, being well known in the time of the Romans by the name of Camboritum. William the Conqueror built a castle here, of which the Gatehouse is still standing, and used for the county goal. The town is divided into 10 wards: has 14 parish churches; containing upwards of 1200 houses, for the most part irregularly built, and about 6000 inhabitants.

This UNIVERSITY, for antiquity, privileges, beautiful colleges, good discipline, number of students, plentiful revenues, and all other necessities for the advancement of learning, may challenge equality with any other in Europe. We have no authentic account of the university of Cambridge, farther back than the reign of Henry I. who succeeded William Rufus in 1100. About this time the monastery of Crowland, or Croyland, in Lincolnshire, being consumed by fire, Geoffroy, the abbot, who was possessed of the manor of Catenham, near Cambridge, sent thither Gislebert, his professor of divinity, and three other monks. These monks, being well skilled in philosophy and the sciences, went daily to Cambridge, where they hired a barn and read public lectures; a number of scholars were soon brought together, and in less than two years they were so multiplied, that there was not a house, barn, or church in the place large enough to hold them. Inns and halls were soon after built for the accommodation of students.

The public buildings in the university are,

1. The SENATE-HOUSE, an elegant building, which forms the N. side of an intended quadrangle, as the Schools and Public Library do the W. side: on the S. another building is designed of the like form, directly opposite to the Senate-house; and St. Mary's church stands on the E. side of the square.

2. St. PETER'S COLLEGE, the most ancient, and the first we meet with in entering the town from London.

3. CLARE-HALL, a noble college on the eastern bank of the river, over which it has an elegant stone bridge, leading to a fine vista, beyond which is a beautiful lawn.

This

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This delightful spot is much resorted to in Summer evenings, where, on the one hand, are elegant buildings, gardens, groves, and the river; and, on the other, corn-fields to a very great extent.

4. **PEMBROKE-HALL** (or college, for there is no difference between a college and a hall at Cambridge.) The chapel, which is one of the most elegant and best proportioned in the university, was built by Sir Christopher Wren.

5. **CORPUS CHRISTI, or BENET COLLEGE.**

6. **TRINITY-HALL.**

7. **College of GONVILLE and CAIUS; called KEY'S COLLEGE.**

8. **KING'S COLLEGE**, which on many accounts is deemed the most magnificent in Europe. The chapel is one of the finest pieces of Gothic architecture in the world, 304 feet long, 73 broad, and 91 feet in height to the battlements; and yet not a single pillar to sustain the roofs, for there are two; the first of stone, finely wrought, the other of timber covered with lead, between which two a man may walk upright. It is adorned with 26 beautiful pinnacles, of which the 4 principal ones are 150 feet high, and are seen at 20 miles distance. The carving is inimitably fine, and there still remains an image of God the Father driving the rebellious angels out of Heaven.

9. **QUEEN'S COLLEGE**, one of the pleasantest in the university, has delightful gardens, orchards, and walks. The celebrated Erasmus chose this college for his last retreat.

10. **CATHERINE-HALL**; the chapel here is reckoned a fine piece of architecture.

11. **JESUS-COLLEGE**, situated out of the town, and surrounded by groves, gardens, and fine meadows; was originally a convent of Benedictine nuns.

12. **CHRIST'S-COLLEGE.**

13. **ST. JOHN'S-COLLEGE**: the service here is performed as in cathedrals.

14. **ST. MARY MAGDALEN COLLEGE.**

15. **TRI-**

15. TRINITY COLLEGE, a very grand structure, containing two spacious quadrangles. A beautiful simplicity reigns throughout the chapel; which is adorned with a grand altar piece, stalls, and a noble organ gallery. Public worship is performed here as in cathedrals.

16. EMMANUEL-COLLEGE, the chapel is well adorned and furnished; the hall has been repaired and highly finished.

17. SIDNEY-SUSSEX-COLLEGE.

ELY, 12 miles from Cambridge, 68 from London, is an ancient city, situated in the fenny country, called the Isle of Ely; and being surrounded by the Ouse and other streams is unhealthy, though it stands on a rising ground. It was made an episcopal see by Henry I. The cathedral and the Bishop's palace are its chief ornaments; the former has a remarkable dome and lanthorn, supposed to be the only work of its kind in Europe, which seems to totter with every gust of wind; and was in the Saxon's time a monastery. The chief street, which is on the E. side of the city, is full of springs, which generally overflow from one to another all the way down the hill. This city is so encompassed with gardens, that all the country towns in the neighbourhood, especially Cambridge and St. Ives, are supplied with garden stuff from hence. They are particularly noted for strawberries.

WISBICH, 20 miles from Ely, 89 from London, is situated among the fens and rivers in the northern border of the Isle of Ely, where William the Conqueror erected a castle; which in the reign of Queen Elizabeth was converted into a prison for Romish priests and jesuits. This is at present the best trading town in the whole Isle of Ely, having the benefit of a fine navigation.

NEWMARKET, 10 miles from St. Edmund's Bury, 60 from London, a handsome well-built town, consisting of one long street, the N. side of which is in Suffolk; is famous for horse races, and prodigiously frequented by persons of all ranks. The town is not modern as the name imports: for it was of note in Edward the III^d's time, but being burnt down in 1683, was afterward rebuilt. Besides the parish church of St. Mary's, there is
also

also a small church, All-Saints, which is properly speaking only a chapel of ease to Wood-Ditton, in Cambridgeshire. It is a healthy place, and on a spacious heath, which is the finest course in England. Here are several very wide, steep and long ditches, which were cut by the East Angles, to keep out the Mercians; one of which being a stupendous work, much superior to the rest, has obtained the name of the Devil's Ditch; which runs many miles over the heath. The king has a house for his own residence when he comes to the races; built by Charles II.

SOHAM, 4 miles from Ely, is remarkable for the ruins of a church burnt by the Danes.

CAXTON, 7 miles from Cambridge, 49 from London, was the birth-place of William Caxton, the first printer in England, and that of the celebrated historian Matthew Paris. A Roman way from Arington and Holm goes through this place to Papworth.

LINTON, 8 miles from Cambridge, 49 from London: near this place a Roman military way joins the Ikenild.

THORNEY ABBEY, founded in the year 972, is situated among the fens to the N. W. of Ely, and formerly called Ankeridge, from the Anchorite monastery there.

RECH, a small market town in the hundred of Stone; a fortification with a large ditch and rampart begins here, and extends over Newmarket-heath.

GOGMAGOG HILLS, 50 miles from London, have on the top of them the remains of a fort, which some think was an encampment of the Romans; from the brow of these hills a Roman high way ran to the S.

ARBURY, near Cambridge, has a large camp of a squarish figure; Roman coins have been found near it.

STOURBRIDGE, so called from a bridge over the brook Stour, where the most famous fair in the kingdom is kept; some years ago it was supposed to be the largest in Europe. The quantities of wool, hops, woollen cloth, and other articles sold during this fair are incredible. It begins September 8th, and continues fourteen days. It is kept in a common field, where a large town of booths, ranged out into regular streets arise in a few days: and such a concourse of people resort to it, that fifty hackney coaches

coaches from London have found employment here in a season. Wool and hops are the chief articles of trade, but people resort hither to buy toys, curiosities, mercery goods, &c. and to see the shows and entertainments of the place. A large causeway was cast up here leading towards Newmarket, and at the end of it a ditch called 7 mile dyke.

The most memorable event that appears in the history of this county, of a private kind, happened at Barnwell, a little village near Cambridge, September 8, 1727. Unhappily some strollers had brought down a puppet show, which was exhibited in a large thatched barn. Just as the show was about to begin, an idle fellow attempted to thrust himself in without paying, which the people of the show preventing, a quarrel ensued: after some altercation the fellow went away, and the door being made fast, all was quiet; but the villain, to revenge the supposed insult, went to a heap of hay and straw, which stood close to the barn, and secretly set it on fire. The spectators of the show, alarmed by the flames, which had communicated to the barn, rushed to the door, but it happened unfortunately that the door opened inwards, and the crowd pressing violently against it there could be no escape. Thus the whole company, consisting of more than 120 persons, were kept confined till the roof fell in, and covered them with fire and smoke: six only escaped with life; the rest, among whom were several young ladies of fortune, were reduced to one indistinguishable heap of mangled bodies totally disfigured. The friends of the dead not knowing which were the relics that they sought, a large hole was dug in the church yard, and all were promiscuously interred together.

SEATS.

- The King's palace at Newmarket.
- The Duke of Bedford's, at Thorney Abbey, and at Drayton-Dry, near Cambridge.
- Marquis of Granby's, at Chevely, near Newmarket.
- The Earl of Godolphin's, at Gogmagog Hills.

WIM-

WIMPLE, Earl of Hardwicke's, at Wimple.

Palace of the Bishop of Ely, at Wisbich.

Lord Montfort's, at Horse Heath.

CATLIDGE, near Newmarket, Lord Elibank's.

Mr. Montgomery's, Chippenham Hall, near Newmarket.

Mr. Soame Jenyn's, Bottisham Hall, near Cambridge.

Lord Visc. Irwin's, at Exning, near Newmarket.

Sir Jacob Garrard Downing's, at Gamlingay-park.

Sir John Hind Cotton's, Bart. at Madingley.

Mr. Affleck's, at Dalham Hall.

Mr. Pearce's, at Hatley St. George.

Mr. Martin's, at Qui-Hall near Cambridge.

Mr. Nightingale's, at Kneefworth.

Sir Thomas Hatton's, Bart. at Long-Stanton.

Mr. Jocelyn's, at Stapleford.

Late Mr. Buck's, at Hoggington.

Mr. Pemberton's, at Trompington.

Mr. Ansty's, at ditto.

Sir Robert Clark's, at Snailwell, near Newmarket.

Sir Thomas Peyton's, at Dodington.

Mr. King's, at Catley, near Linton.

Mr. Webb's, at Whaddon, late Sir Henry Pickering's.

Charles Allix, Esq; at Great Swaffam.

Mr. Bennet's, at Baberham, an ancient seat, built by Signior Pallavicini, in Q. Elizabeth's reign.

Mr. Thomas Western, and Mr. Younghusband's, both at Abbington.

William Vachel's, Esq; at Hingeston.

William Hall's, Esq; at Hilderham.

Dingley Ascham's, Esq; at Connington.

Mrs. Sindrey's, at Histon.

Charles Pepys, Esq; at Impington.

John Stevenson's, Esq; at Newton.

CROXTON, the seat of Edward Leeds, Esq;

S U F F O L K

IS bounded on the E. by the German ocean; on the W. by Cambridgeshire; on the S. by Essex; on the N. by Norfolk. It is about 35 miles in length, 20 in breadth, and 140 in circumference; containing seven rivers, 40 parks, 22 hundreds, 32 market towns, 575 parishes, about 1500 villages, and 995,000 acres. The soil is various. That near the sea sandy and full of heaths, but produces rye, pease, hemp; and feeds large flocks of sheep. The middle parts abound with wood and pasture, and those towards the N. corn.

IPSWICH, 69 miles from Lond. and 12 from Harwich, was once in a very flourishing state, as appears from the great number of ships that belonged to it, when its harbour was more commodious, and 21 churches, of which now only 12 remain. The tide rises here 12, sometimes 14 feet. The town is populous, about a mile long, and something more in breadth, forming a sort of half moon on the bank of the river, over which it has a good bridge of stone. It is a corporation; and its chief manufactures are linen and woollen. There are besides the 12 parish churches, 2 chapels and meeting houses, a town-hall, council chamber, a large market place with a cross in the middle, a shire hall for the county session, a free school, a good library, an hospital for lunatics, called Christ's-hospital; a noble foundation for poor men and women, and lofty shambles in the market-place, built by Cardinal Wolsey, who was born here, the son of a butcher. It appears to have been once fenced about with a wall or rampart. The most distinguished charity set on foot here, and continued through the county, for relief of widows, and orphans of poor deceased clergymen, was began in 1704: which rose from a subscription of 6l. for the first year, to 312l. in the year 1740: for those 37 years the whole amounted to 4416l. 9s. 9d. Christ-church, one of the religious houses formerly in this town, has been converted to a mansion house, where is a fine park and bowling-green. Another of them is a court of judicature,

catuse, where the quarter sessions is held for Ipswich division, and part of it is a goal. A college begun here by Cardinal Wolsey, on the ruins of a small college of Black-canon, though left unfinished by him, still bears his name. The country round Ipswich is chiefly applied to the production of corn, considerable quantities of which are shipped off for London, and sometimes for Holland. This county likewise has an inexhaustible store of timber, of which they send large quantities to the king's yard at Chatham, often running it over from the mouth of the river at Harwich in one tide. Here is a convenient key and custom-house, and no place in Britain is thought to be so well qualified for the Greenland fishery, since the same wind which carries a ship out of the harbour is quite fair to the Greenland seas.

DUNWICH, 99 miles from Lond. 9 from Aldborough; is a town corporate, sends burgesses to parliament, and though only a parcel of poor cottages, is still chargeable with 80l. a year to the crown. It is supposed to have been a Roman station.

ORFORD, 3 miles from Aldborough, 88 from Lond. stands at the mouth of the river Ore; the towers of its castle and church are a sea mark for those who come from Holland. There is also a light-house at the Ness, being a guide especially for colliers and coasters; and the point of land affording great shelter for them when the sea is ruffled by a strong N. E. wind.

ALDBOROUGH, 93 miles from Lond. 9 from Dunwich, has a good harbour and fishing trade, is pleasantly and strongly situated in the valley of Slaughden, which extends from Thorp to the Haven of Orford. It has two streets about a mile long, is clean though meanly built, and has a good key on the river Ald, many warehouses and fish houses for drying fish; abundance of sprats, soles, and lobsters are caught hereabouts. It trades to Newcastle for coals, and transports corn.

SUDBURY, 56 miles from Lond. has a fair bridge on the river Stour, which almost surrounds the town; barges come up as far as Neyland, which is of great benefit to this place: it is an antient corporation, has 3
I 5
handsome

handsome churches, and a good trade in woollens, ferges, &c. The buildings are good, but the streets unpaved. It was one of the first towns in which Edw. III. introduced the woollen manufactory, by settling the Flemings here.

EYE, a small town, 90 miles from Lond. 12 from Ipswich, 17 from Norwich, stands in what is called an island, because almost surrounded by a brook; its streets are dirty. The chief manufacture is bone-lace.

ST. EDMUND'S BURY, was so called from an abbey built here by K. Canute, A. D. 1025, in honour of St. Edmund the last King of the E. Angles, who was martyred there by the Danes in 886: part of this abbey is still remaining. This town is 72 miles from Lond. and 10 from Newmarket; is an ancient town in a good air, and fruitful part of the country; has 2 noble churches, and a grammar school. Angel-hill, where the fairs are kept, and where is a handsome spacious plain, affords great amusement and entertainment for the gentry, especially at the time of the fairs, which last a fortnight. This place is called the Montpelier of England, for the beautiful rise of the town and its open and extensive prospect, the uniformity of its buildings, the regular situation of the streets, which in general cut each other at right angles. The river Bourn, or Lark, on which it stands, is navigable from Lynn to Farnham.

BRANDON, 78 miles from Lond. and 7 from Mildenhall, has a bridge over the little Ouse, and a good harbour, where is a ferry about a mile from the bridge, for conveying goods to and from the Isle of Ely. It is a pretty well-built town, and had formerly a market.

MILDENHALL or MILNALL, 69 miles from Lond. 12 from Bury, is a large populous town, on the river Lark; has a handsome church and lofty steeple, the streets regular, and a market well supplied with fish and wild fowl.

HALESWORTH, an ancient, large and populous town on the river Blythe, has a manufacture of linen yarn.

SOUTHWOLD, 104 miles from Lond. 14 from Halesworth, is a small corporation on the coast, with a draw-bridge on the Tame river. It has a good harbour, is a
populous

populous town, strong by its situation, and has also some fortifications. It stands pleasantly, has a large church almost surrounded by the river Blythe on the W. and the sea on the S. especially at high tide; drives a great trade in salt and in the herring fishery.

LESTOFF, or LEOSTOFF, 117 miles from Lond. 6 from Beckles, a little town that seems to hang over the sea. Fishing is the employment of the inhabitants in general, for cod in the N. sea, and for herrings, mackerell and sprats at home.

BECKLES, 108 miles from Lond. 6 from Leostoff, on the river Waveney. It is a large populous town, and the streets well paved, but the buildings many of them mean. It has a noble church and steeple, and 2 free schools well endowed.

BUNGAY, a large town upon the same river, which surrounds it, and is navigable hither from Yarmouth by barges; was a very strong town in the reign of Stephen; the ruins are now to be seen. Bungay-castle, the seat of the Bigods Earls of Norfolk, was then so strong, that Hugh Bigod wrote these boasting lines upon it,

Were I in my castle of Bungay,
Upon the river Waveney,
I would not value the King of Cockney.

BUNDLEDAL, 87 miles from Lond. 7 miles from Ixworth, is a long mean dirty town, with a poor market; in the road from Bury St. Edmund's to Yarmouth.

FRAMLINGHAM, 87 miles from Lond. 3 from Debenham, is a large town of note. The castle is a remarkable piece of antiquity, being supposed to have been built by some of the first kings of the East Angles. It was a large beautiful fabric, and very strong, both by art and nature; the area, within the walls now standing, being above an acre and a rood of land, the walls 44 feet high and 8 thick, with 13 towers 14 feet above them. Hither Queen Mary retired, when Lady Jane Grey her sister, and she were competitors for the crown. The

town stands on a clay-hill, in a fruitful soil and healthy air, near the source of the river Ore, and has a spacious market place; its greatest ornament is its church, a large edifice of black flint, with a steeple 100 feet high.

DEBENHAM, 83 miles from Lond. so called from the river Deben, which runs by it; though some will have its true name to be Deepenham, from the deepness of its roads; for which reason it is but little frequented.

STOW-MARKET, is a large town, 75 miles from Lond. on the banks of the Orwell, in the center of the county, with a well stored market, a manufacture of tammies and other Norwich stuffs. It has a spacious beautiful church, with a large steeple and lofty pinnacles.

NEEDHAM, 73 miles from Lond. 9 from Ipswich, consists of one good street, and deals in broad cloths.

WOODBIDGE, 76 miles from Lond. on the river Deben, which being navigable by ships of considerable burthen to the town, its inhabitants drive a good trade to London, Newcastle, Holland, &c. in sackcloth, salt, hemp, and cordage. It has 4 or 5 docks for building ships, with commodious keys and warehouses.

LANHAM, or LAVENHAM, 61 miles from Lond. 10 from Stow, is a large pleasant town, has a gradual rise to the top of the hill, where its church and a spacious market-place, encompassed with 9 streets or divisions, are situated in a very healthful air. It was formerly very famous, and much enriched by a staple trade in blue cloths, and was divided into 3 guilds or companies, which had each their hall. It has still a good manufacture, and there is a wool-hall, of which many hundred packs are sent from hence in a year. The church and steeple is 137 feet high: the roof finely carved, and the 2 pews belonging to the families of the Ear. of Oxford, and the Springs, at whose expence it was repaired, are hardly to be equalled by any in Hen. the VIIIth's chapel; and in the church is Mr. Spring's statue in brass.

CLARE, on the river Stour, gives title of Viscount, Earl, and Marquis to the Duke of Newcastle. Here

are the ruins of a castle and monastery, and a manufactory of says.

HADLEY, 64 miles from Lond. 8 from Sudbury, is a large populous town, but being in a bottom is dirty. Its markets are commonly well stored with provisions. It is of some note for its manufactory of woollen cloths.

NEYLAND, 57 miles from Lond. has a handsome bridge over the Stour, which by reason of its low situation often overflows it, but makes it amends by bringing plenty of coal, which must otherwise be fetched at a great distance. It is a large town, has a manufactory of bays and says, but formerly was much larger; what is most remarkable, is the number of marble monuments inlaid with brass to the memory of clothiers who had formerly lived here, and had besides bequeathed considerable charities that perpetuated their memories.

LONG MELFORD, 50 miles from Lond. 3 from Sudbury, stands near the Stour, as it runs from Clare to Sudbury, one of the best and largest villages in England, and has divers handsome houses. Lady Rivers, widow of John E. Rivers, had her house plundered here in the civil wars in K. Charles 1st's time, by which she lost near 50,000l. In the church is a remarkable fine tomb for Sir William Cordall, speaker of the house of commons, member of Q. Mary's privy council.

WICKHAM, 4 miles from Woodbridge, on the river Deben; though but a village is as large as several market towns. From its church, though but 23 yards high, being situated on an eminence, you have, in a clear day, a prospect of near 50 parish churches.

STRATFORD, 12 miles from Ipswich, 56 from Lond. has a bridge on the Stour, and is a thoroughfare stage from Ipswich to Lond. It carries on a considerable trade in the woollen manufacture.

REDGRAVE, 2 miles from Buddefdale, was for many years the seat of the descendants of Sir Nicholas Bacon, the first baronet in England. Its church has a fine marble monument to the memory of Lord Chief Justice Holt.

Antiquities in this county are,

1. At **OTTAW**, on a chalky hill, the ruins of an old castle, said by Camden to have been built by Offa, K. of the Mercians.

2. Between **Walpit** and the river **Orwell**, on a high hill, are the remains of an old fortification, called **Hawlee-Castle**.

3. **BURSTER-CASTLE**, in the N.E. part of the county, at the mouth of the river **Waveney**, was built by the Romans; large parts of the walls are still remaining.

4. **HOKON**, formerly called **HEGILSDEN**, on the river **Waveney**, is the place where K. **Edw.** suffered martyrdom from the Danes, who bound him to a tree, and shot him to death with arrows.

5. **BUTLEY PRIORY**, and **LEISTEN ABBEY**, both founded by **Robert de Granville**; the former 1171, the latter 1183.

6. **WINGFIELD CASTLE**, built by a family of great reputation, who flourished many years before the conquest.

7. **METTINGHAM CASTLE**, built by **John de Norwich**, in the reign of **Edw. III.**

8. **BURGH CASTLE**, supposed to be one of the forts erected by the Romans, on the river **Yare**, against the Saxon pirates.

Baldwin de Petteur held the manor of **Hemingston**, near **Noodham**, by being obliged every Christmas-day, in the presence of the King to exhibit a *Saltus*, a *Sufflatus*, and a *Bumbulus*; in plain English, to cut a caper, puff with his mouth, and let a f—t. Such was the indelicate humour of the times.

Among the curiosities of this county, may be reckoned the periodical rendezvous of swallows along this coast, from **Orfordness** to **Yarmouth**; for about the end of summer an incredible number of these birds gather here into a body, where they wait the first northerly wind, to transport themselves out of Britain, probably to some warmer climate. They are sometimes wind-bound for several days; but it no sooner blows fair, than they

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they all take wing together, and never appear till the following spring, when they arrive here in vast bodies, and from hence distribute themselves all over Britain.

S E A T S.

The Duke of Grafton's, at Euston-hall; and at Lavermore-hall, three miles from Ixworth.

Earl of Bristol's, at Ickworth Park, 2 miles from Bury.

The Earl of Rochford's, at Easton.

The Earl of Dyfart's, Helming-hall, near Orford.

SUDBORN-HALL, near Orford, Lord Hereford.

CULFORTH-HALL, near Bury, Earl Cornwallis.

BROME-HALL is another of his Lordship's seats.

DENHAM-HALL, Lord Townshend.

Sir Robert Davers's, Bart. at Rushbrook.

Mr. Pitt's, at Cronen-hall, near Debenham.

—— Williams, Bart. at Pendring-hill, near Stoke.

Late Sir Thomas Hanmer's, at Milden-hall.

Sir Samuel Barnardiston's, at Brightwell.

—— Norton's, Esq; at Ixworth.

Mr. Naunton's, at Letheringham.

Walter Plumer's, Esq; at Chediston.

N O R F O L K

IS bounded on the S. by the rivers Waveney, and the lesser Ouse, which divide it from Suffolk; by Cambridgeshire on the W. and on the N. and E. by the German Ocean. It is about 57 miles in length, 35 in breadth, and 140 in circumference; containing 31 hundreds, one city, 22 market towns, 666 parishes, and 1500 villages. The soil is more various than any other county, but in general so fruitful, that Norfolk is considered as the epitome of the whole kingdom. Large flocks of sheep are kept here; some villages are said to feed no less than 3000.

NORWICH,

NORWICH, 106 miles from Lond: 16 from Yarmouth, is a large city near the conflux of the rivers Vensder and Yare. It stands on the side of a hill, and is near two miles in length, and one in breadth. The town is irregular, tho' the buildings both public and private are neat and handsome. The manufactures, for the greatest part, are crapes and stuffs, of which vast quantities are sent from Yarmouth, to Holland, Germany, Sweden and other parts in the Baltic; it is computed, that the goods made here of that kind employ not less than 120,000 persons. It has 12 gates, and 6 bridges over the Yare; 32 churches, besides the cathedral, and chapels and meeting-houses of all denominations. The roof of the cathedral, a large, venerable and handsome structure, is adorned with the history of the bible. The choir is large and spacious, and the steeple higher than that at Grantham, but lower than that at Salisbury, being about 105 yards from the pavement of the choir to the pinnacle on the top. Here are 2 churches for the Dutch and French Flemings, who enjoy singular privileges. The other remarkable buildings are, 1. The Duke of Norfolk's palace, once reckoned the largest in England out of London. 2. The castle, supposed to have been built in the time of the Saxons. 3. The town-hall in the market-place. 4. The Guildhall, formerly the monastery of the black friars. 5. The king's school, founded by Edw. VI.

YARMOUTH, or **GREAT YARMOUTH**, 22 miles from Norwich, 123 from Lond. is a large, populous well-built town, much increased of late years in shipping, buildings and people; and greatly superior to Norwich in situation for trade. The road, a place defended by sands, is the principal rendezvous of colliers between Newcastle and London. The harbour is safe, but the inhabitants are at a considerable expence annually to clean it. It is considered as the center of the coal trade, and carries on a considerable traffic with Holland. But its herring fishery renders it a town of the greatest trade on all the E. coast of England, except Hull. Forty millions of herrings are computed to be taken and cured annually in this place. This town is bound by its charter,

ter, to send to the sheriffs of Norwich a tribute of 100 herrings, baked in 24 pasties, which they ought to deliver to the lord of the manor of East Carlton, who is obliged to present them to the King wherever he is. Their fishing-fair is at Michaelmas, which lasts about a month, during which time all ships from any part of England may catch fish, and bring in and sell toll-free. The town is neat, compact and regular; and stands on a peninsula betwixt the harbour and the sea; walled and fortified. Its chief strength by land is the river or haven which lies on the W. side, with a draw-bridge over it. The principal curiosity is the market-place, the finest and best furnished of any in England, and its key or wharf is said to be the longest and largest in Europe, that at Seville excepted. The custom-house and town-house are both fine buildings. St. Nicholas's church has so high a steeple, as to serve for a sea-mark. Here is a noble hospital, and two charity schools.

LYNN, or LYNN-REGIS, 106 miles from London, is a well built antient town at the mouth of the Ouze, and has formerly been rich, well inhabited, and a place of defence, as appears from the ruins of the works. It has a spacious market place, the quadrangle of which is adorned with a statue of Wm. III. and a fine cross with a dome and gallery round it, supported by 16 pillars. The market-house is of free stone, in modern taste, 70 feet high, erected on 4 steps, neatly adorned with statues and other embellishments. Four rivulets, over which are 15 bridges, run through this town, and the tide of the Ouze, which is about as broad here as the Thames above London-bridge, rises 20 feet perpendicular. St. Ann's platform mounts 12 guns, and commands all ships passing near the harbour. Here are two churches, the principal was formerly an abbey; and meeting-houses. The town-house and exchange are ancient and noble fabrics. St. Nicholas's chapel is one of the finest in England.

The marsh lands over-against Lynn Regis form a peninsula, almost surrounded with navigable rivers and an arm of the sea. It consists of about 30,000 acres, with
ditches

ditches to carry off the water, over which there are 111 bridges; it feeds generally about 30,000 sheep.

THETFORD, 10 miles from Bury, 16 from Newmarket, 80 from London, near the borders of Suffolk, lies in a pleasant open country, on two navigable rivers, the Thet and Ouze, of which the former runs through it. This was formerly a Bishopric; and, as the English catholics console themselves with keeping up the titles of Bishops of their persuasion, a titular Bishop of Thetford is still found among the rest. Here are the remains of a priory, founded A. D. 1103, by Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk.

CASTLE RISING, 3 miles from Lynn, 103 from Lond. took its name from its situation on a high hill, on which was a castle, built by William d'Albini, Earl of Arundel and Sussex, in the reign of Henry I. It has a vast circular ditch according to the Gothic method of fortification, supposed to have been done by the Normans. An hospital was founded and endowed here by Henry Howard, son of the Earl of Surry, &c.

SWAFFAM, 94 miles from Lond. stands in an air highly commended by physicians. It has a sumptuous church; the north ayile of which is said to have been built by a travelling pedlar, who owed his riches to a lucky discovery he once made of a chest of money that had been buried in the earth. This traditionary story is told with abundance of fabulous circumstances: the pedlar, his wife, and dog, have, however, had the honour of being painted in several of the windows, and carved upon the pew-doors.

CROMER, 8 miles from Clay, 127 from Lond. a fishing town, remarkable for lobsters, of which great quantities are sent to Norwich and London.

AYLESHAM, 6 miles from Walsingham, is a populous town, noted for knitters.

WORSTED, 12 miles from Norwich, is memorable for having given name to that sort of woollen yarn and thread, which is from this place called worsted. Here is a manufacture of worsted stuffs and stockings.

CASTEN, 19 miles from Norwich, 128 from Lond. has a bridge over the river Bure. It is noted for a brazen band being carried before the steward of the demesne instead of a mace, but for what reason we know not.

REEPHAM, 2 miles from Casten, noted for having formerly had three churches in one church-yard, belonging to as many lordships, viz. Reepham, Whitewell, and Hackford; but having been long demolished, there is now only the ruins of one for public worship. Its chief trade is in malt.

ST. FAITH'S, is a village with a pretty good street-way, noted for a fair of lean cattle, which the Norfolk graziers and others buy up to fatten.

CLAY, 6 miles from Walsingham, on the same coast as Cromer, has large salt-works, where a great quantity of salt is made for the Baltic and Holland.

MARHAM and WELLS are two towns on the same coast, where is a very considerable trade carried on with Holland in corn, which is a great produce in this country, and in the returns thence.

The **SEVEN BURNHAMS** are seven towns, lying in the north west corner of the county, noted for its salt marshes, which are of some advantage to the sheep. On the shore are many little hills, supposed to be the tombs of Saxons and Danes killed heretabout.

WALSINGHAM, a pretty good town, famous for the ruins of an abbey, where was a shrine of the Virgin Mary, called our Lady of Walsingham, as much frequented once as Thomas-a-Becket's at Canterbury. The soil is famed for producing saffron and southernwood.

DOWNHAM, 5 miles from Seechy, and 86 from Lond. has a port for barges.

WINDHAM, or WIMONDHAM, 100 miles from Lond. a little town, the inhabitants of which, old and young, make small wooden ware. It has had the honour of giving name to a flourishing family, that hath spread itself in several counties; in it is a church, formerly an abbey, built by William d' Albini, butler to Henry I. with a high steeple, on which Kit the Tanner was hanged by

Sir William Windham, sheriff of Norfolk, for rebellion in the reign of Edward VI.

HINGHAM, 5 miles from Watton, 97 from Lond. remarkable for the fashionable dress of its inhabitants, whence it is called Little London.

ANTIQUITIES.

CASTLE-ACRE PRIORY, founded by William Warren, Earl of Surry, A. D. 1090.

BORNHOLM PRIORY, founded 1113.

CREAK PRIORY, situated between Burnham and Creak, was made an abbey by K. Henry III. A. D. 1230.

BINHAM PRIORY, founded in the reign of Henry I. by Peter de Valoines.

SEATS.

The Duke of Norfolk's, at Norwich palace.

The Bishop of Norwich's palace, in the same city.

Baron Dudley's, at Castle Rising.

Earl of Buckinghamshire's, at Blickling, near Aylesham.

Viscount Townshend's, at Raynham, and at Stiffley, near Walsingham.

The Earl of Orford's, at Houghton, called Houghton-hall, a grand structure all of stone, with large gardens and plantations compleatly finished in 1735. Its founder was prime minister from the year 1722 (when the first stone was laid) till 1742. The capital collection of pictures, which adorn this noble palace, is described in the *English Connoisseur*.

LINCOLNSHIRE

IS a large maritime county, bounded on the S. by the river Welland, which divides it from Northamptonshire; on the N. by the Humber, which separates it from Yorkshire; on the E. by the German Ocean: and on the W. by some parts of Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire,

shire, and Rutlandshire. It is about 60 miles in length, 35 in breadth, and 180 in circumference; contains 30 hundreds, one city, 34 market towns, 688 parishes, and about 1550 villages. It has many large rivers, particularly the Ven, Welland, Gwash, Witham, Bane, Trent, Dun, and Ankam. The inland parts produce corn; the fens, cole-seed, and the richest pastures, so that their cattle are larger than those of any other county, except Somersetshire.

It is divided into Holland, Kesteven, and Lindsey.

I. HOLLAND.

The principal town in Holland is **Boston**, or **BOSTOLPH'S TOWN**, 119 miles from Lond. built on the river Witham, which is navigable to Lincoln, inclosed here with artificial banks, and has a wooden-bridge over it. About the end of Edw. I. it was burnt down by villains in the disguise of monks and priests, who came in the fair time and carried away the Merchants goods. It was made a staple for wool, and the merchants of the Hans Towns fixed their guild here; it is a pleasant well built town, and has a good foreign and inland trade. Its church is reckoned the largest parish church without cross ayles in all the world. It is 300 feet long within the walls, 100 feet wide, handsomely ceil'd with Irish oak, supported by tall and slender pillars. It has 365 steps, 52 windows, and 12 pillars, answerable to the days, weeks, and months of the year. Its tower or steeple is famous for its height and workmanship, being 282 feet high. It has a beautiful octagon lanthorn on the top, which is seen near 40 miles every way, but especially on the sea as far as the entrance of the dangerous channels called Lynn-deeps and Boston-deeps, so that it is the guide of mariners as well as the wonder of travellers, and is a magnificent specimen of a fine Gothic taste. The town has a commodious haven, and is plentifully supplied with fresh water by pipes from a pond, inclosed in the great common called the West Fenn. The land is very rich, feeding vast numbers of large sheep and oxen. John Fox the Martyrologist was born here. Near this town

town is Tattershal Castle, belonging to the family of Clinton, Earls of Lincoln. The parish church was collegiate, and endowed with lands, in the 17th of Henry VI.

KIRKTON, or KIRTON, 3 miles from Boston, took its name from its kirk or church, a fine stately building in form of a cathedral, and gives it to the hundred, in which are four villages of the same name.

DUNNINGTON, 7 miles from Boston, 116 from Lond. has a port for barges, and is remarkable for large quantities of hemp and hempsed bought here.

CROWLAND, 9 miles from Spalding, 93 from Lond, has a church, the remains of its once famous abbey, founded about the year 716. It stands among the fens; and its three streets are separated from one another by water courses, so that the people go in boats to milk their cows. There is a communication by a bridge over against the west end of the abbey, built in a triangular form to answer the streets: it is so curious a fabric as not to be equalled in England, if in Europe: it is formed on three segments of a circle meeting in one point, and each base, they say, stands in a different county, viz. Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, and Northamptonshire. It is situated upon the center of the conflux of the river *Nyne* with the *Welland*. Here is great plenty of fish; also wild ducks in their season; the latter are so numerous in the decoys, that thousands are sometimes driven into the nets in one night by little dogs trained to that business. There are many pools in and near the town for the liberty of fishing, and these they call their corn-fields, because no corn grows within five miles of them. The fen-ny boggy soil being impassable for carts, has occasioned this proverb; "All the carts which come to Crowland, are shod with silver."

In the old monkish times the following verses, in very bad Latin, were made either on the town or the adjoining abbey:

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<p><i>In Hollandia stat Crowland;</i> <i>Ibi Finnum tale quate,</i> <i>Ibi Barum gladiale,</i> <i>Ibi Lestli lapidale,</i> <i>Ibi viri boreali,</i> <i>Ibi vale sine vale.</i></p>	<p><i>In Holland stands Crowland;</i> <i>Built on dirty low land;</i> <i>Where you'll find, if you go,</i> <i>The wine's but so so;</i> <i>The blades of the hay</i> <i>Are like swords, one may say;</i> <i>The beds are like stones,</i> <i>And break a man's bones;</i> <i>The men rough and sturdy,</i> <i>Compliments will afford ye;</i> <i>But bid you, Good b'w'y,</i> <i>When both hungry and dry.</i></p>
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SPALDING, 9 miles from Crowland, 10 from Deeping, and 103 from Lond. is a much neater town, and more populous than could be expected, in a place encompassed with lakes, canals and rivers; for the drains of Boston and Langtoft centre upon it, and the Welland almost incloses it, over which there is a bridge with a navigable port, which, though but small, has several barges. This place in form, neatness and situation, very much resembles a *Dutch* town. The river Welland passes through one of the streets, a canal is cut through another, and trees are planted on each side.

II. KESTEVEN.

STAMFORD is an ancient town, 36 miles from Lincoln and Northampton, and 89 from London; it sends members to parliament, and stands upon the river Welland, which is navigable to it by barges. On the south bank was formerly a strong castle, called Stamford Baron, and from a butcher's dog seizing a mad bull, and entertaining the Earl of Warren with the sport, the cruel practice of bull-baiting took its rise here: for he gave the meadow for a common to the butchers, on condition they should find a mad bull six weeks before Christmas. The town is finely situated on the declivity of a hill to the river; has a stone bridge of five arches over the Welland, a handsome town-hall, and six parish churches, in one of which, viz. St Martin's, Cecil Lord Barleigh lies buried, in a splendid tomb; and in that adjoining to the

the bridge is a fine monument of the late Earl and Countess of Exeter, in white marble, with their figures as big as the life, done at Rome. The chief trade is malt, sea coal, and free stone.

GRANTHAM, an ancient town on the river Witham, 10 miles from Sleaford, 110 from Lond. is a neat town, sends members to parliament, and has abundance of good inns of great resort. It is well built: here is a fine large church with a handsome spire of stone 280 feet high; which, by a deception of the sight, seems to stand awry. A good free school was built and endowed here by Bishop Fox, where Sir Isaac Newton received his first education.

SLEAFORD, 13 miles from Lincoln, 116 from Lond. stands in a pleasant valley, near the head of the river Lea. It has a large parish church of good architecture, a free school, and a well endowed hospital; has a considerable trade in corn, cattle, and a large market place. Here are the ruins of a castle built by Alexander, Bp. of Lincoln. The river runs here with such rapidity, that it is never frozen; and within the Town, and 2 miles below, it drives five corn mills, two fulling mills, a paper mill, and then falls into the river Witham. This is called New Sleaford, to distinguish it from Old Sleaford in its neighbourhood.

III. LINDSEY Division, containing

LINCOLN city, 132 miles from Lond. antiently called Nicol, is built on the side of a hill, at the bottom of which runs the river Witham in three small channels, over which are several bridges. It is said in Doom's-Day Book to have had 1070 houses, and to be very populous. The cathedral was esteemed the glory of Lincoln; for its magnificence and elevation is such, that the monks concluded it would chagrin the devil to look at it, and thence an envious look, by a proverbial expression, is compared to the Devil looking over Lincoln. The city formerly abounded with monasteries, churches, &c. so that many barns, stables, and even hogsties seem to be the ruins of them, from the stone walls, and arched windows and doors.

doors. The river on the W. side of the town below the hill forms itself into a great pool, called Swan Pool, from the great number of swans on it. The Roman north gate, called Newport Gate, still remains entire; it is a vast semi-circle of stone not cemented, but, as it were, wedged in together; and near this gate is another curious piece of Roman workmanship, called the Mint Wall, with alternate layers of brick and stone, still about 16 feet high and 40 long. In other parts of the city are many remains of the old Roman wall, and several funeral monuments of the Normans have been dug up over-against the castle. To the W. is an entrenchment made by King Stephen, and here are carved in stone the arms of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. In the center of the old castle, which was built by the Romans, and repaired by the Saxons, is a modern structure where the assizes are held. The city is a county of itself, and has extensive power and privileges. On the down of Lincoln is sometimes seen that rare bird called the Bustard; the country hereabout is very rich and agreeable; the noble tract of Lincoln Heath extending like Salisbury Plain above 50 miles. The cathedral a vast Gothic pile reckoned by some equal to that of York, was successively brought to perfection by several of its Bishops. Here is the finest and largest bell in England called Tom of Lincoln, near five ton weight, containing 424 gallons ale measure, and near 23 feet in compass. Among the tombs is one of brass for Queen Eleanor, wife to Edward I. and another for Catherine Swinford, third wife of John of Gaunt, and mother of the Somerset family, now Dukes of Beaufort. This pile standing on a hill may be seen 50 miles to the N. and 30 to the S. and is one of the largest in England, and the middle or rood tower is also reckoned the highest in the whole kingdom. This extensive prospect is very barren of objects. The Fens near Revesby Abbey are of vast extent but serve for little other purpose than the rearing great numbers of geese, which are the wealth of the Fenmen. During the breeding seasons these geese are lodged in the very bed-chambers of the inhabitants. They are plucked five times in the year, at Lady-

Day for feathers and quills, and four times more, between that and Michaelmas for feathers only; the old geese submit quietly to the operation, but the young ones are very noisy and unruly. If the season proves cold, numbers die by this barbarous custom.

GREAT GRIMSBY, 35 miles from Lincoln, 168 from Lond. a parliamentary Borough, is half a mile from the Humber: its chief trade is in coals and salt, brought by the Humber, and was a place of much greater trade before the harbour was choaked up. Here are several streets of well built houses, and a large handsome church which looks like a cathedral.

BARTON, 14 miles from Grimsby, 166 from London, is a large straggling town, of little note, except for a common but dangerous ferry over the Humber to Hull.

AXHOLM, is a river island in the N. W. part of this division, encompassed by the Trent, Dun, and other rivers. It is noted for producing alabaſter and flax in the middle part, and a sweet shrub called gall or pelts in the low marshy part.

GAINSBOROUGH, is a well built town, of good trade, upon the Trent, 137 miles from Lond. has a fine market; its church in 1735 was rebuilt. Here are also several meeting houses. The Trent brings up ships of burthen with the tide, though it is near 40 miles by water from the Humber.

WAINFLEET, 12 miles from Boston, 134 from Lond. though near the Fen country, called Holland, is a neat compact town, noted for a fine free school and for giving birth and surname to its founder, who was Bishop of Winchester.

HORNCastle, 141 miles from Lond. an antient large well built town on the river Bane. It plainly appears to have been a camp or station of the Romans, not only from its castle which was a Roman work, but from the Roman coins often turned up in the ground near the place where the castle stood; the area contained about 20 acres.

LOUTH, 11 miles from Market Raſin, and 154 from Lond. is a corporate town of good resort, which takes its name from Lud, a rivulet that runs by Cockerington, and

and then parts into two streams. It has a free school, and a fair church with a beautiful steeple, which some think the highest in the county.

The chief antiquities of Lincolnshire are

BRIGCASTERTON, near Stamford, where the river Gwash or Wash crosses the highway, is supposed to be the antient Gausennæ.

PONTON, near the head of the river Witham, was no doubt the antient Ad Pontem of Antoninus, as may be inferred not only from the similitude of the names, but from the distances and marks of antiquity.

CROCOCALANA appears to be that which is now called Ancaster, not only from its situation upon the Roman highway, but from the coins and vaults found there.

KIRKSTED-ABBEY, near Horncastle, founded about the year 1139, by Fitz Euda Lord Tattershal.

LOUTH-PARK ABBEY, near Louth, founded by Alexander Bishop of Lincoln, about the year 1139.

SOMERTON-CASTLE, near Lincoln Heath. This structure is supposed to have been rebuilt by Beck, Bishop of Durham, about the year 1305.

The ruins of **JORKLEY HALL**, on the banks of the river Trent, near Gainsborough.

TUPHOLM PRIORY, founded in the reign of Henry II.

TEMPLE BRUER, situated in the middle of the great heath, on the S. side of Lincoln. This structure was commandery of the Knights Templars, founded by a Lady Matilda de Cauz, and built in the form of the Temple near the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, about the time of Henry III.

At **FLEET** in Holland was found a large earthen pot covered with an oak board, and in it three pecks of Roman copper coins piled down edge-ways, most of them of Gallienus.

CARESDIKE, supposed to have been a work of the Romans, and navigable, runs across the fens, not only of Deeping, but also that great fen beyond the river Glen, called Lindsey Level; it is a broad deep channel, which

formerly extended from Peterborough to Lincoln; almost 40 miles.

At HARLAXTON, a village near Grantham, a brazen vessel was ploughed up in the last age but one, wherein was an old fashioned gold helmet studded with jewels, which was presented to Catherine Queen Dowager of King Henry VIII.

The HIGH-DYKE, commonly called the HIGH-STREET, is the famous Roman high-way which passes from Stamford through Lincoln, and from thence to the Humber. At Hiberstow, and about a mile from hence, are to be seen the foundations of Roman buildings with tiles, coins, and other marks of Roman antiquity. As also near Broughton, and at Roxby was lately discovered a Roman pavement; at Winterton cliff, Roman buildings; and at Alkburrow, two miles more to the W. there is still a small square intrenchment or camp, now called Countess Close, from a Countess of Warwick, who they say lived there, or owned the estate. The castle was very conveniently placed by the Romans in the N. W. angle of the shire, as a watch tower over all Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire.

At YARBOROUGH, are the remains of a large Roman camp, where pecks of coins have been found.

Other remarkables are the Astroits (a kind of figured stone, having on its surface the resemblance of a star) found about Belvoir-castle. The vale of this name lies partly in this shire, Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire, and abounds with corn and pasture.

There are many chalybeat springs between Stamford and Lincoln, of which those most in use are Bourne and Walcot, near Folkingham. The former is esteemed equal in strength with that at Astrop-wells, and is much drank in the summer.

At SCRIVELBY, near the river Witham, is a manor belonging to the Dymocks, the King's Champions; the Lord of which holds it by this tenure, viz. that at every coronation, he, or his representative, shall come into the royal presence on a war horse, and make proclamation, that "if any one shall say that the sovereign
has

has no right to the crown, he is ready to defend it with his body against all opposers."

Near the Humber are the remains of Thornton-college or abbey, where in taking down a wall not many years ago, the workmen found the skeleton of a man, with a table, book and candlestick, supposed to have been immured there for some heinous crime.

At OUMBY, near Market-Raisin, in the field adjoining to the great road between Stamford and Hull, brass and silver coins have been dug up with the figure of Rome on one side, and this inscription, *Urbs Roma*; on the reverse, *Pax & Tranquillitas*.

At the end of MARTEN, near Gainsborough, a Roman way comes into this county from Doncaster, and passes by Littleburrow to Lincoln; and about a quarter of a mile from it are considerable pieces of Roman pavement.

On the hills between Gainsborough and Ley, many pieces of Roman urns and coins have been taken up.

The CASTLE-HILL, by Lord Gainsborough's church, is surrounded with intrenchments of above 100 acres.

Near HUMINGTON, 5 miles from Grantham, is a Roman camp called Julius Cæsar's double trench. In 1691, a peck of Roman coins was found in an urn.

Near WINTRINGHAM, on the Humber, was lately discovered a Roman town and many antiquities.

SEATS.

The Duke of Rutland's, at Belvoir-castle, on a high precipice near Grantham. It was built soon after the conquest by Robert de Tedenlo, a Norman nobleman, to curb the Saxons. The hill on which it stands is believed to have been a Roman station, and known by the name of Margidunum.

GRIMSTHROP, Duke of Ancaster's, 11 miles from Grantham.

Earl of Bristol's, at Asperley, near Sleaford.

Earl of Lincoln's, at Sempringham, 10 miles from Grantham.

Late Lord Willoughby of Parham, at Knath, 11 miles from Lincoln.

DODDINGTON, Sir Thomas Husley's.

BELTON, near Grantham, Lord Brownlow, late Sir John Cuff's, Speaker of the House of Commons.—This elegant house stands low; but in order to remedy that inconvenience, its late owner (Lord Tyrconnel) erected a grand building upon a neighbouring eminence, called Belle-Mount, which commands a very agreeable and extensive prospect.

Late Sir John Tyrwhit, at Stanfield.

The Dowager Lady Ellis, at Nocton, near Lincoln.

Mr. Bertie, at Uffington.

SCRIVELBY-HALL, an antient barony, the seat of Lewis Dymock, Esq; Champion of England.

RUTLANDSHIRE

IS almost of a circular form, bounded on the E. and S. with Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire; on the S. and W. by Leicestershire, and on the N. by part of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire. It is about 15 miles in length, 10 in breadth, and 40 miles in circumference; contains two market towns, 111 villages, 148 parishes, and five hundreds, but hath more parks than any shire in England for its bigness. The soil is very fruitful in corn and pasture, which feeds many cattle, and abundance of sheep, whose wool is observed to be better than that of other counties, from a peculiar quality in the soil.

OAKHAM, 96 miles from Lond. the shire town for the assize; is situate in the little but rich vale of Catmos, is indifferently well built, and famous for its market, fairs, castle, hospitals, and free school. One Jeffery Hudson, a man born at Oakham in 1619, when he was seven years old, was not above fifteen inches high, though his parents, who had had several other children of the usual size, were tall and lusty. At that age he was taken

taken into the family of the Duke of Buckingham, and to divert the court, who, on a progress through this county, were entertained at the Duke's seat at Burley on the Hill, he was served up to table in a cold pye. Between the 7th and the 30th years of his age he did not advance many inches in stature, but soon after thirty he shot up to the height of three feet nine inches, which he never exceeded. He was given to Henrietta Maria, consort of Charles, probably at the time when he was served up in the pye, and that Princess kept him as her dwarf, and is said to have often employed him on messages abroad. In the civil wars he was made a captain of horse in the king's service, and he accompanied the queen his mistress to France; from whence he was banished for killing a brother of Lord Crofts in a duel, on horseback. He was afterwards taken at sea by a Turkish Corsair, and was many years a slave in Barbary; but being redeemed, he came to England, and in 1678, upon suspicion of being concerned in Oates's plot, was taken up and committed prisoner to the gate-house in Westminster, where he lay a considerable time, but was at last discharged, and died in 1682, at the age of sixty-three.

Oakham is particularly remarkable for an ancient custom still kept up, viz. that every peer of the realm the first time he comes through this town shall give a horse-shoe to nail upon the Castle-gate; and if he refuse, the bailiff of the manor has power to stop his coach, and take the shoe from one of his horses. This is now called the order of the horse-shoe; and it is common for the donor to have a large one made with his name stamped on it, and often gilt. One over the judges seat in the assize hall is of curious workmanship. This castle was built in the reign of Hen. II. by Walkeline de Ferrarais, younger son of the Earl of Derby. All Saints church here is a fine structure, and has a good spire.

UPPINGTON, 3 miles from Rockingham, 90 from Lond. is a neat compact well built town, has a good market, an hospital, free school, &c.

MARKET, or MARGED-OVERTON, had its latter name from its situation on a hill. This is supposed to be the

Margidunum of Antoninus, which is the more probable from the great quantity of Roman coins that have been found here, from the exact correspondence of the distances from other stations, and from the British word *Marga*, i. e. lime-stone, with which the inhabitants manure their ground.

This county, though small, has many good seats, particularly, the Earl of Gainsborough's, at Exton. And the Earl of Winchelsea's, at Burley on the hill, both near Oakham. This fine seat formerly belonged to Villiers Duke of Buckingham, but was burnt by the parliament army. It was rebuilt more beautiful and convenient than ever by the late Earl of Nottingham, having a walled park, fine woods and store of game, so that few or no seats in the kingdom are superior to it for gardens, paintings, a fine library, &c.

LEICESTERSHIRE

IS almost of a circular form, bounded by Lincolnshire and Rutlandshire on the S. Warwickshire on the W. and Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire on the N. It is about 33 miles in length, 28 in breadth, and 100 in circumference; contains, besides Leicester town, 13 market towns, 200 parishes, 558 villages, 6 hundreds, besides 10 parks. Its soil in the S. W. part is rich for corn and pasture, but so destitute of fuel that they burn straw, cow-dung, &c. The N. E. parts, especially about the Wreake, are hilly, and feed vast numbers of sheep. In the N. W. parts coals are produced in good plenty. The S. E. produces wheat, barley, pease and oats, and most luxuriant crops of beans.

LEICESTER, the chief town, and the only one sending members to parliament, 99 miles from Lond. It is the largest, best built, and most populous in the shire, was a considerable town in the time of the Romans, supposed to be the *Rutæ* or *Rugæ Coritanorum* of Antoninus; and since that time history makes mention of 32
parish

parish churches in it; but it has suffered much by sieges, and has now but six parishes and five churches. The freemen are exempt from toll in all markets in England. There is an exquisite piece of workmanship in the high street, in form of our Saviour's cross. The hospital built by Henry Plantagenet, Duke of Lancaster, is supported by some revenues of the Duchy of Lancaster, so as to be capable of maintaining a hundred aged persons decently: it was rebuilt in 1776, at his Majesty's expence. But the most stately edifice now is the new Bede-house (called Wigston's hospital) built in the reign of Hen. VIII. for 12 poor lazars, with a chapel and library. There is another near the abbey for six widows. The inhabitants have greatly improved in their manufacture of stockings wove in frames; and are thought to return in that article 60,000l. per annum. Before the castle was dismantled, it was a noble work. Its hall and kitchen still remain entire, and the former is so lofty and spacious, that it is made the court of justice at the assizes. One of the gateways of this palace has an arch of curious workmanship, and in the tower over it is kept the magazine for the county militia. In a meadow near the town was formerly a monastery, founded in 1143 by Robert Bossu, Earl of Leicester, where the famous Cardinal Wolsey died. It is now a dwelling-house, and the only thing worth seeing is the terrace walk, supported by an embattled wall, with lunettes hanging over the river and shaded with trees. St. Margaret's church is a noble and elegant structure, and famous for a ring of six of the most tunable bells in the kingdom. In St. Martin's church is an epitaph on one Heyric, who died in 1589, aged 76, lived in one house with his wife 52 years, and in all that time buried neither man, woman nor child, though sometimes 20 in family; and the widow, who lived to be 97, saw before her death in December 1611, of her children, grand children, and great grand children, to the number of 143.

KEYM, or KEHAM, in the neighbourhood of this city, furnishes a still more remarkable instance of vigo-

rous longevity. The register of that parish, in the hand-writing of Mr. Thomas Samson, the minister, till near the time of his death, records his being minister there in 1563, and that he had eight children by his wife Thomasin; of whom, the first was born in 1630, and the last in 1644. He could not serve the cure before he was 22; consequently he was 89 years old at the birth of his first child, and 103 at the birth of the last. He was buried in 1655, when he had been minister of Keym 92 years, and was at least 114 years of age.

HARBOROUGH, 84 miles from Lond. stands on the river Welland, near its source, remarkable for its fair for cattle, which, for want of fields belonging to the town, they are obliged to keep in the next parish.

BOSWORTH, 105 miles from Lond. stands pleasantly upon a hill in a wholesome air and fruitful soil both for corn and grass. Bosworth field is much noted in history for the decisive battle between the houses of York and Lancaster, in which Richard III. was slain, and where are frequently dug up pieces of armour, heads of arrows, and other weapons of war.

LUTTERWORTH, 87 miles from Lond. is chiefly famous for its petrifying water; and for having that great and good divine John Wickliffe, the morning star of our reformation, for its rector. The parish church is very handsome, with a lofty spire; the old pulpit is still standing, in memory of that learned and pious divine, who died and was buried here in peace; yet by order of the council of Constance, his bones were taken out of his grave 40 years after and burnt. The Roman Watling-street runs on the W. side of this town.

ASBY DE LA ZOUCH, 114 miles from Lond. has a handsome church, a plentiful market, and a neat stone cross. Its castle, where King Charles had a garrison, was demolished in 1648. The malt liquor of this town is thought not inferior to that of Burton. From the remains of the walls of the Earl of Huntingdon's castle here, it must have been one of the principal in England. James I. continued here with his whole court for several days; the dinner being served up every day by 30 poor knights,

knights, with gold chains and velvet gowns. Near this town is a noted mineral water called Griffydham.

MELTON MOWBRAY, a large well built town, 106 miles from Lond. has the most considerable market for cattle in this part of England. Its church is remarkably large and handsome, and well built in the form of a cross. The town is almost surrounded by the Eye, a little river, over which are two fine bridges.

BURTON LAZERS, once noted for an hospital of Lazars or Lepers, the richest in England, all the inferior ones being subject to the master of this, as he was to the master of the Lazars of Jerusalem.

The chief antiquities in this county.

The BENNONES of ANTONINUS must be about Cleybrook, in the S. W. side of the county, from the antient ways crossing here, and from the coins and foundations of buildings discovered on both sides the Roman way: Bensford-bridge, not far off, is thought to have some relation to the old Bennones.

BARROW-HILL and ERDBURROW, supposed to be the antient Vernometum.

SEGS-HILL, or SEX-HILL, 7 miles from Leicester, where six parishes center, and set the marks of the bounds; it is one of the Roman Tumuli.

OLVESTON PRIORY, built in the reign of Hen. II. by Judge Grimbold.

ULVESCROFT PRIORY, founded and endowed by the Earl of Leicester, in the reign of Hen. III.

GRACE-DIEU NUNNERY, founded by Roisia, wife of Berham de Verdun, in the 24th year of Hen. III. for Cistercian nuns.

The story of Thomas Burdet, Esq; of Newton Burdet, near Leicester, should make us revere the gentleness of the present government with respect to matters of treason. This Mr. Burdet happened inadvertently to say, in the reign of Edw. IV. that he wished the head and horns of his white buck were in the guts of him that put the King upon killing it; and the judges of that time thought proper to construe his words into high treason.

for which he was beheaded. In the same reign a citizen of London was hanged, for saying he would make his son heir to the crown; meaning only the crown that hung upon his sign post.

S E A T S.

Duke of Montague's, at Garrenton.

Earl of Huntingdon's, at Ashby de la Zouch and Dunnington.

The Earl of Harborough's, at Stapleford.

STANTON HAROLD, Earl Ferrers, near Ashby de la Zouch.

Earl of Stamford's, at Groby, near Leicester.

Earl of Cardigan's, at Stanton Brudenell, near Bosworth.

TEMPLE ROTHELEY, or ROTHERBY, about 5 miles from Leicester, the seat of Mr. Babington; which was formerly a house of the Knights Templars, and still retains the privilege of being tithe free. The owner is also entitled to an acknowledgment of a certain *per centage* upon all purchases of land, within certain towns composing what is called his *foke*.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

IS bounded by Lincolnshire on the E. by Leicestershire on the S. E. and S. Derbyshire on the W. and Yorkshire on the N. W. and N. It is 43 miles in length, 24 in breadth, and 110 in compass; contains besides Nottingham, nine market towns, 168 parishes, 450 villages, 8 hundreds, or rather six wapentakes and two liberties. Its E. side is very fruitful in corn and pasture, but the W. woody, and in some places producing nothing but coal. Its commodities are cattle, corn, malt, wool, coal, wood, cheese, butter, leather, and tallow, several sorts of marl, a soft stone like alabaster, which when burnt makes a plaster wherewith they floor their rooms, and is harder than that of Paris.

Not.

NOTTINGHAM, 126 miles from Lond. is reckoned one of the neatest places in England, and has as good a trade as most inland towns. It stands pleasantly on the ascent of a rock overlooking the river Trent, which runs parallel with it about a mile to the S. and has been made navigable. It has 3 churches, a grand town-house built on piazzas, a fine spacious market-place with two crosses in it, and a goal for the town and county: A manufactory for weaving frame stockings; and likewise for glass and earthen ware. It is a sporting country, a second Newmarket for races and other public diversions; there being a fine horse-course on the N. side of the town. The rock on which the town stands is so remarkably soft, as to be capable of being cut out into steps and other purposes with great ease. The cellars are very good for keeping beer, and the country abounding in barley, the malt and beer-trade are greatly followed. They pretend to rival Derby in malt, which they send into Lancashire, and Cheshire. Here is a house built on the side of a hill, where one enters at the garret, and ascends to the cellar, which is at the top of the house. Marshal Tallard was prisoner in this town 7 years. As the castle has oftener been the residence of our monarchs than any place so far from London, the town has more gentlemen's houses than any town of the bigness in Britain. In the Duke of Newcastle's park there is a ledge of perpendicular rocks hewn into a church, houses, chambers, dove-houses, &c. The altar of the church is natural rock, and there appears to have been a steeple and pillars; and between this and the castle there is a hermitage of the like workmanship. These are excellent specimens of British antiquity.

When Charles I. commenced hostilities against his parliament, his standard was first erected on the walls of Nottingham castle; but two or three days after, it was removed to a close, on the N. side, that was long after called Standard close: and the post where it was fixed, remained there for many years. The castle was demolished by Cromwell after the civil war.

EAST,

EAST-RETTFORD, 26 miles from Nottingham, 144 from Lond. is an antient borough in the midst of a large plantation of hops, in which, and in barley for malt it drives a great trade. Here is a good town hall, a free grammar school, and a handsome church. This place is joined by a stone bridge to another called West Retford, where is Trinity-hospital, governed by a master, who has 15l. a year, and 10 brethren 10l. besides 10s. for coals, and six yards of cloth for a gown; an allowance for reading prayers, and 10l. to maintain a scholar in Exeter-college, Oxford.

NEWARK UPON TRENT, 124 miles from Lond. a great thoroughfare on the York road, is a handsome well built town with bridges over that river, which here forms an island, by dividing itself into two streams two miles above the town, which meet again two miles below it. The N. gate is built of stones that seem to be of a Roman cut. Many antiquities have been found about it; particularly four urns, and a brass lar or household god, an inch and half in length. Its church is fine and spacious, and the market place so large, that Lord Bel-lasyse drew up 10,000 men in it, when he defended this town for King Charles I. against the Scots army. It is a place of good trade in corn, cattle, wool, &c. The castle is said to have been built by Alexander Bishop of Lincoln in the reign of King Stephen.

MANSFIELD, 139 miles from Lond. is a well built populous town in the forest of Sherwood, which drives a great trade in malt. It is well known for the old story and song of Sir John Cockle, the Miller of Mansfield, and the frequent resort of the Kings hither for pleasure. Near this place are the remains of Welbeck-abbey, begun in the reign of King Stephen, and finished in Henry the II^d's.

WORKSOP, seven miles from Retford, 146 from Lond. is a small town near the head of the river Ryton, with a market noted for malt. There are certain oaks in this parish denominated shire oaks, from a large oak that hangs over three shires, viz. Nottingham, Derby, and Yorkshire. Here are the ruins of a famous monastery, called

called Worktop or Radford-abbey, founded in 1103. It belongs to the Duke of Norfolk, and was some years since burnt down by an accidental fire; but it is now rebuilt with great magnificence.

TUXFORD, the post and stage town betwixt Newark and Bawtry, is situated in that part of the shire called South Clay, because there is another called the North Clay. Here is a good free school for boarding and teaching four minors or decayed gentlemen's sons, and the town boys.

SOUTHWELL, 5 miles from Newark, 140 from Lond. has a large church called a Minster, which is both parochial and collegiate; the chapter hath jurisdiction over 28 churches, to most of which it has the right of presentation, beside others in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire. The civil government of its jurisdiction is distinct from that of the county, and is called the Soke of Southwell cum Scrooby, which is another town in this county. The church is in form of a cross, with a large tower in the middle, two spires at the west end; and is a plain Gothic building, without painted windows, images or niches. Here is a free school; with two fellowships and two scholarships in St. John's College, Cambridge. Near this town are the ruins of a structure called Southwell Palace, built by Cardinal Wolsey.

BINGHAM is a small town, but noted for a parsonage of great value.

BLITH has a large church and parish.

GOTHAM, for the sake of the proverb "*A wise man of Gotham*," must not be passed by. A custom has prevailed among all nations, of stigmatizing the inhabitants of some particular spot, as being remarkable for stupidity. This opprobrious district, among the Asiatics, was Phrygia; among the Thracians, Abdera; among the Greeks, Bæotia; in England, Gotham, a village a little to the south of Nottingham. Of the Gothamites, ironically called the Wise Men of Gotham, many ridiculous fables are traditionally told; particularly, that having often heard the cuckow, but never seen her, they hedged in a bush, whence her note seemed

seemed to proceed, that being confined within so small a compass, they might at length satisfy their curiosity. What gave a rise to this story is not now remembered; there is however, at a place called Court-hill, in this parish, a bush still called by the name of Cuckow-bush.

THURDARTON PRIORY, near Newark, was founded by Radulphus de Ayncourt, in the reign of Henry II.

LITTLEBOROUGH, in Nottinghamshire, three miles from Gainsborough, is the *Agelocum* or *Segelocum* of the Romans. An urn full of Domitian's coin was found here, and great numbers of the coins called Swine-pennies have been ploughed up.

The chief antiquity found here was at Tyn, in the parish of Hayton, viz. a druid amulet of a transparent colour, with streaks of yellow; and many cornelians with Roman engraving, besides Roman coins, have been dug up in many other parts.

SEATS.

WELBECK, the Duke of Portland's.

HAUGHTON, the Duke of Newcastle's; also at Nottingham-castle.

Duke of Norfolk's, Workfop-Manor.

Duke of Kingston's, at Thoresby; burnt down some years ago, and not yet rebuilt; the Duke resides in the offices which escaped.

Earl of Chesterfield's, at Shelford-Abbey, five miles from Nottingham.

Lord Middleton's, Wollaton-hall, near Nottingham.

Lord Byron's, at Newstead Abbey, and at Bulwell-park, each 7 miles from Nottingham, and at Linby, 5 from it.

Newstead Abbey was founded by Henry II.

Lord George Sutton, at Renham, and Haram Park, both near Newark.

DERBYSHIRE

IS bounded on the E. by Nottinghamshire and a part of Leicestershire, which also, with a small part of Warwickshire, bounds it on the S. on the W. by Staffordshire and part of Cheshire; and on the N. by Yorkshire. It is about 40 miles in length from S. to N. 30 in breadth on the N. side; though but six on the S. side, and about 130 in circumference; contains, besides Derby, 11 market towns, 500 villages, 106 parishes, and six hundreds. The soil in the E. and S. parts, which are full of gentlemen's seats and parks, is beautiful in grain, especially barley, which makes many of the inhabitants maltsters, who have a good trade for malt and ale. The W. part on the other side of the Derwent is barren, consisting wholly of bleak hills, except some fields of oats; nevertheless there is some grass on the hills, and plenty in the vales, which feed great flocks of sheep and other cattle. Its mountains and quarries yield large quantities of lead, antimony, mill-stones, and grind-stones, marble, alabaster, a coarse crystal, azure, spar, green and white vitriol, allum, pit coal and iron, for forming which here are forges.

The bleak mountains, called the **PEAK**, from the Saxon Paeland (an eminence) abound with many wonderful curiosities, which are generally reduced to these seven.

1. **CHATSWORTH-HOUSE**, the magnificent palace of the Duke of Devonshire, which we shall speak of in another place. On the E. side of it rises a prodigious high mountain, so thick planted with fine trees, that it seems a wood rising gradually. Upon the top of this mountain are dug up mill-stones, and here begins a vast moor, which for thirteen miles together due N. has neither hedge, house nor tree, so that strangers are obliged to have guides. On this plain is a large body of water, which takes up near 30 acres, and from the ascents round it receives as it were into a cistern all the water that falls; which

which through pipes supplies the cascades, water-works, ponds and canals in the gardens.

2. The mountain called MAM-TOR, or MOTHER-TOWER, on the N. side of the road from Buxton to Castleton, under which are several lead mines; great quantities of earth and large stones are always falling down from it, be the weather ever so calm, and with so loud a noise as often to frighten the inhabitants. The perpendicular height is said to have been plumbed, and found to be 123 yards, which is ten yards higher than the dome of St. Paul's, London.

3. ELDEN-HOLE, a terrible chasm in the side of a mountain, seven yards in breadth, and about twice as long. Its mouth is very wide and craggy, but the inner parts contracted, and it is reckoned bottomless, because the depth could never be fathomed: though a plummet let down by Mr. Cotton (author of the Wonders of the Peak) once drew 884 yards after it, whereof 80 were wet; but it not being perpendicular, on a second trial he could not make the plummet sink half so far. This may however be accounted for, if it be considered, that in sounding great depths, it is possible to mistake the weight of the rope for that of the plummet; which may be accidentally lodged, and yet the rope continue descending. This appears from a very curious account of this tremendous pit, in the Philosophical Transactions, vol. LXI. where it is shewn, that the water at bottom is probably a continuation of the river that runs out of the great cavern at Castleton. There is a tradition which ought to be allowed some little weight in confirmation of this opinion. A poor old woman is said to have pursued a goose that ran away from her, until at last, to her great sorrow, it fell into Elden Hole: but some days after, she heard that her goose was seen at the mouth of Castleton cavern; where she actually recovered it safe! Admitting the truth of this story, which cannot be disproved, the fluttering of the bird's wings had preserved it from being dashed to pieces in the descent; and the current of the subterranean stream conducted it to the outlet.

4. **BUXTON WELLS**, lie in an open healthy country, 16 miles from Manchester, with a fine down and a variety of prospects. There are at least nine so called, from a village near the head of the river Wye, where they rise. The water does not tinge silver, nor is it purgative; when drank it creates a good appetite, opens obstructions; and if mixed with chalybeat waters, which are here also, answers all the end of the Bath waters, or those of the hot well near Bristol. This bath is of a temperate heat; the vase out of which these wells spring is like marble, and they are inclosed with a fair stone building. These fountains daily purge themselves by running out in a continual current into the adjacent meadows, where they colour the other waters with which they mix their reeking streams. It is very remarkable, that within five feet of one of the hot springs, there rises a cold one; but the partition being small, and not kept up, they intermix, yet the hot seems predominant. The bath room being arched over, is made very delightful, and the bath itself will receive 20 people at a time to walk and swim in it. The temper of the water is blood-warm, and may be raised at pleasure to any height. Near these wells are marble stones wonderfully disposed in several rows by nature; and at Castleton, not far off, is an antient castle upon a rock, the ascent to which is so full of windings, that it is not less than two miles to the top.

5. **TIDES WELL**, is a spring that ebbs and flows irregularly, as the air is supposed to agitate or press the water from the subterraneous cavities. It lies near the little town of Tideswal, 158 miles from London, in which are a fine church and a free school.

6. **POOL'S HOLE**, is a cave at the foot of a large mountain, called Coitmoos, with an entrance by a small arch so low, that such as venture into it are forced to creep on all fours for several paces; but then it opens for above a quarter of a mile to a considerable height, not unlike the roof of a cathedral; and in a hollow cavern to the right, called Pool's Chamber, there is a considerable echo. In this cavity are great ridges and rocks of stone, and many surprising representations both of

art

art and nature, produced by the petrifying water continually dropping from the rock. Here is a column as clear as alabaster, called Mary Queen of Scots pillar, because it is pretended she went in so far. Beyond it is a very steep ascent, which terminates in the roof in a hollow, called the Needle's Eye in which when the guide places his candle, it represents a star in the firmament to those below. If a pistol be fired near the Queen's pillar, it makes a report like a cannon. People go out by another way over many small currents of water.—Near this place are two small brooks of hot and cold water, so united into one stream, that a man may put his thumb and finger into both at once.

7. The DEVIL'S ARSE IN THE PEAK, is a cavern under a steep hill near Castleton, with a horizontal entrance above 30 feet perpendicular, and at least twice as broad at the bottom. The top resembles a graceful arch chequered with stones of different colours, from which water continually drops that petrifies. Here are several huts like a town in a vault, where some packthread spinners live, who are always ready with their lanthorns and candles to shew strangers the place. The cave, a little beyond the entrance, is very dark and slippery, because of a current of water under foot, and the rock hangs so low, that one is forced to stoop; but having passed this place and a brook adjoining, which is not to be waded sometimes, the arch opens again to a second current, with large banks of sand in and near it; but this too is passable, till we come to a third current, where the rock closes.

Besides these, there are other curiosities. Near a village called Byrchover is a large rock with two tottering stones upon it; one of them four yards high and twelve round; and yet rests on a point so equally poised, that it may be moved with a finger.

In sinking a leaden groove near Brudwal, a tooth was found, which though one fourth of it was broke off, was thirteen inches and a half in compass, and weighed near four pounds; and among other bones, a large skull which held seven pecks of corn. These representations

of creatures and their parts, and other modifications of matter found in Pool's Hole and the mines here, have been supposed to be some human, some elephantine; but more justly to proceed from that genus of spars called stalactites, by the dropping of water from the roofs of subterraneous caverns.

At the bottom of several mountains of this country are cavities, called by the inhabitants swallows because many streams run into them, of which there appears no vent. Some authors think, that the subterraneous rivers in the Devil's Arle, and those springs that come out of the mountains near Castleton, are formed from the conflux of waters in those cavities.

At STANLEY and QUARENDON, near Derby, are chalybeat springs, much like those of Tunbridge and Scarborough; at the latter is also a cold bath, and abundance of people resort there in the season to drink the waters.

At KEDLASTON, near Derby, is a well, said to be singular in curing old ulcers, but especially the leprosy.

At MATLOCK, a village upon the Derwent, about eight miles from Buxton, are several warm springs. One of the baths is secured by a stone wall on every side, by which the water is retained to rise to a proper height; and there is a sluice to let it out when too high. It has an elegant house built over, and room within to walk round the bath. The water is just milk-warm. The spring issues from a rock into a most delightful plain, of above a mile in compass, surrounded by craggy hills, and a rapid stream. The basin, which is of lead, is large enough for eight or ten people to bathe in. Here are the smelting mills, at which they melt down the lead-ore, and run it into a mould, where it is formed into pigs. The bellows are kept in continual motion by running water. Over against Matlock bath is that prodigious pile of rocks called the Torr.

From Matlock to Dovedale is another fine romantic excursion. The walk between the rocks begins at a point, where the river Dove turns a corner of the projecting hills, and where the horses should be left, and continues up toward its source. This dale is in every
part

part deep and narrow, the river running sometimes close to the rocks on one side, sometimes on the other, barely leaving a foot-path between. These rocks are of a grey colour, and of every wild and grotesque variety of shape and height: sometimes they stand single, like fragments of walls; sometimes they rise from a broad base, like pyramids; sometimes slender, like pinnacles; and huge fragments hang on the upper part, seemingly almost without support, and to threaten destruction to all who venture beneath them. Yew, ash, and other trees grow out of the crevices, scattered in various parts; which in particular places form a thick wood from the bottom to the top. In one part there is a large natural arch, in a rock which has the appearance of a wall; this leads to a cavern called Reynard's hall, and to another called his kitchen. The rocks continue some distance beyond this, and are then lost by degrees, a fragment peeping out here and there, after the connection is discontinued. The river is of unequal width, very clear, seldom deep, and produces trout and grayling; its course is rapid, and it has many falls, but none of any consequence: it parts the counties of Derby and Stafford at this place.

From viewing the rude natural grandeur of this mountainous country, we shall now attend to the principal towns.

DERBY, 126 miles from London, the county town, so called from having been a park or shelter for deer, stands on the west side of the river Derwent, over which it has a fair stone bridge of five arches. The S. side is watered by a little rivulet, called Mertin-brook, which has nine bridges over it. The most remarkable church in Derby is All-saints or All-hallows, having a beautiful Gothic square tower 60 yards high, with four pinnacles. This town depends chiefly on a retail trade, also in buying and selling corn, in making malt, and brewing ale, of both which great quantities are sent to Lond. Upon the ale of this place, Henry of Auranches, Poet Laureat to Henry III. made the whimsical Latin verses, which have been thus translated:

Of

Of this strange drink, so like the Stygian lake,
Which men call ale, I know not what to make:
Thick it runs *in*, but *out* most wondrous thin,
What store of dregs must needs remain within!

In 1745, the young Pretender pushed forward into England, as far as this town; and kept his court in a house belonging to Lord Exeter: but not meeting with that support he was led to expect, he turned back again to Scotland as the safest course.

In an island of the Derwent, facing Derby, is a machine, erected in 1734 by Sir Thomas Lombe, for the manufacture of silk, the model of which was brought out of Italy at the hazard of his life. It is a mill, which works the three capital engines made use of by the Italians for making organzine or thrown silk; so that by this machinery one hand-mill twists as much silk as could be done before by 50, and better. The engine contains 26586 wheels, and 97746 movements, which works 73726 yards of silk thread every time the water-wheel goes round, which is three times in a minute, and 318504960 yards in one day and night. One water-wheel gives motion to all the rest, and any one of the movements may be stopped separately. One fire-engine likewise conveys warm air to every part of the machine, and the whole is governed by one regulator. The house which contains this engine is five or six stories high, and half a quarter of a mile in length. Upon the expiration of a patent for 14 years, the parliament granted Sir Thomas 14000*l.* as a further recompence for the great hazard and expence he had incurred in introducing and erecting the engine, upon condition of his allowing a perfect model to be taken of it, in order to perpetuate the art of making the same; which model is kept in the record-office in the Tower of London.

At one end of this building is a mill on the old plan, used before this improvement was made, where the silk is fitted in a coarser manner for the shoot. These mills employ about 200 persons of both sexes and all ages.

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The money given by strangers is put into a box, which is opened the day after Michaelmas Day, when a feast is made, the windows illuminated, and the work people, dressed in their best array, enjoy a holiday in mirth and dancing.

The china manufactory is not less worthy of notice, and does honour to the country; the indefatigable undertaker has brought the gold and the blue to a degree of beauty never before attained in England; and the drawing and colouring of the flowers, are truly elegant. About 100 hands are employed here, and happily, very young persons can earn a living in the business.

Another work is carried on here, which though it employs not many hands, ought not to be overlooked: this is the making of vases, urns, and other ornaments for chimney pieces, and even chimney pieces themselves; from the variety of marbles, spars, and other petrifications, which abound in this county, and which take a fine polish.

ASHBORN, 10 miles from Derby, and 139 from London, on the east side of the river Dove, is famous for sending great quantities of cheese up and down the Trent.

WIRKSWORTH, or WORKSWORTH, 6 miles from Ashborn, 139 miles from London, is a large well frequented town in the Peak, and the greatest market for lead in England. At Creich, a village near this town, are furnaces for smelting it; and it is observable, that the season they chuse for this work, is when the west wind blows, as being the most lasting of all. The people employed about this work are called the peakrills, and have a remarkable court among them called the Barmoot, relating to the mines and controversies among the miners. The King claims the 13th penny, for which they compound at the rate of 1000l. a year, and it is said, that the tythe of WIRKSWORTH is worth as much yearly. Here is a fair church, a free school, and an alms-house.

BAKEWELL, 151 miles from London, the best town on the N. W. side of the Peak, is supposed to have been a Roman town, from certain altars dug up near it some years

years ago, in the grounds belonging to Haddon-house, and cut in a rough kind of stone. To the east of this town is Scarfsdale, a rich fruitful track, so called from the Saxon *Skarrs*, barren rocks, with which it is surrounded.

CHESTERFIELD, 9 miles from Bakewell, 148 from Lond. the chief town in Scarfsdale, is handsome and populous, with a fair church; the spire of its steeple, which is timber covered with lead, is warped awry. It has a free school and large market place well supplied with lead, and other commodities, in which it deals considerably with the neighbouring counties, and also with London.

ALFRETON, 10 miles from Derby, and 141 from Lond. is supposed to have been called Alfred's town, and is chiefly famous for its malt liquor, which has a curious flavour.

BOLSOVER is a large well built town, noted only for making fine tobacco pipes.

ANTIQUITIES.

DALE-ABBEY, near Derby, founded by one Radulphus, on occasion of an admonition given to a baker of Derby in a dream. Upon which Radulphus left all he was possessed of, and become a hermit in the desert.

BEAUCHIEF-ABBEY, founded by Robert Fitz-Ranulph, in expiation of the Murder of Thomas a Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, and dedicated to him, by the name of Thomas the Martyr.

SEATS.

The Duke of Devonshire's, at Chatsworth, in the Peak. This structure, erected by the first Duke of Devonshire, has little that can attract the eye of the Connoisseur. The grandeur, however, with which it is fitted up, the magnificence of the marble pedestals, and the great quantity of rich carving by the famous Gibbons, are all very striking. It is remarkable for a beautiful chapel and hall, adorned with the finest paintings by Verrio, and for statues and water-works of the most exquisite contrivance in the gardens. To describe its green-houses,
L summer-

summer-houses, walks, wildernesses, rivers, canals, basons, &c. would be endless. Two facts deserve to be mentioned; Mary Q. of Scots was a captive here 17 years, under the care of its first foundress the Countess of Shrewsbury, in memory of which the new lodgings are still called the Queen of Scots apartments. Marshal Tallard, who had been entertained here for some days by the Duke of Devonshire, said "that when he should return to France, and reckon up the days of his captivity in England, he should leave out those he had spent at Chatsworth."

Duke of Devonshire's, at Hardwick, in Scarsdale.

Duke of Portland's; Bolsover Castle, in the town.

Duke of Rutland's, at Haddon-hall, near Bakewell.

Duke of Dorset's, at Croxhall.

Earl of Chesterfield's, at Bretby, near Derby.

Earl Ferrers, at Shirley.

Mr. Cavendish's, at Staley-park, near Chesterfield.

Lord Scarsdale's, at Keddleston-hall, near Derby, which may properly be stiled the glory of Derbyshire; eclipsing Chatsworth, the antient boast of the county. This house was rebuilt in 1761.

Sir Henry Harper's, at Calke, near Derby.

Sir Henry Hunlake's, at Wingerworth, near Chesterfield, and at Westholm, 5 miles from Derby.

Robert Coke's, Esq; at Langford-hall, near Ashborn, and at Melborn-castle, in the hundred of Repton.

Sir Nigel Griesley's, at Drakelow.

Godfrey Clark's, Esq; at Chilcot-hall:

Late Sir Edward Abney's, at Wilsley.

Mr. Meynell's, Langley-hall, near Derby.

Mr. Fitzherbert's, Tiffington-hall.

Mr. Cotton's, Elwall-hall.

Mr. Sacheverel's, Morley-hall, near Derby. The church here, in which are the tombs of the Sacheverels, is much admired for its painted windows.

YORKSHIRE

IS by far the largest county in Engl. having a great variety of ground, both high and low, rich and poor, marshy and heathy. On the W. it is bounded by Lancashire and part of Cheshire; on the S. by Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, and Lincolnshire; on the N. by Durham and Westmoreland; and on the E. by the German ocean. It is said to be of the same dimensions as the Duchy of Wirtemberg in Germany, and is about 114 miles in length, and 80 in breadth. It is divided into 3 parts, called Ridings, which are distinguished by W. E. and N. from their situation with respect to the city of York. Riding is a corruption of the Saxon word, which was applied to the third part of a province or county; and the division into ridings, was, before the conquest, common to several other counties in the north of Engl. These 3 divisions collectively contain, beside the city of York, 49 market towns, 563 parishes, (with many chapels of ease) 2330 villages, and send 30 members to parliament. Yorkshire is also subdivided into 3 lesser shires, viz. Richmondshire, Allertonshire, Howdenshire, to which some add Hallamshire; and again into other partitions, as Craven, Cleaveland, Marshland, Holderneffe, &c. As the situation is different, so of course are the air and soil. The marshy lands are rich, and the hilly barren, in a greater or less degree. Its natural commodities are alum, jet, lime, liquorice, horses; its manufactures knives, bits, spurs, stockings, &c. but the greatest of all is cloth, with which it supplies Germany and the North. It abounds in corn and cattle. Iron and lead mines have formerly been more plentiful than of late years, though no less than 40,000 persons are employed in the iron manufactures under about 600 master cutlers, who are incorporated by the stile of the cutlers of Hallamshire.

YORK, 197 miles from Lond. the second city in the kingdom, whose chief magistrate has the title of Lord Mayor. It was the capital city of the Brigantes, and there-

fore Ptolemy called it Brigantium. This city suffered very much in the Danish ravages, but on the establishment of the Normans it flourished again. In the reign of K. Stephen, the cathedral, as well as other churches, were burnt down, and in the reign of Edw. I. began to be rebuilt, and was afterward finished in the beautiful manner it now is, by the assistance of many liberal benefactions. Pope Pius extolled this church in particular for its wonderful magnificence and workmanship; and for a lightsome chapel with glazed walls, united by slender pillars. The beautiful chapter-house has the following line in gold letters:

Ut Rosa flos florum, sic est Domus ista Domorum.

It has 32 stalls round it all of fine marble, with pillars betwixt each stall of one piece of alabaster; but none to support the roof, which depends entirely upon one pin placed geometrically in the center. The room is an octagon 21 yards in diameter; the windows of painted glass, and finished with an arch or concave at the top.

This CATHEDRAL is built in the Gothic taste, and by some thought to be the finest in England, if not in Italy. It is dedicated to St. Peter. The windows are adorned with glass exquisitely painted with scripture history, and other most curious figures in 117 partitions. In the S. tower there is a deep peal of 12 bells. The nave of this church, which is bigger than any except St. Peter's at Rome, is four feet and a half wider, and 11 feet higher than that of St. Paul's. The ascent from it through the choir to the altar is by six steps. The entrance of the middle nave of the church at the W. door is under the largest Gothic arch in Europe, which binds and supports the two towers. At the S. end of the cross isle is a circular window, called the marigold window, from its glass being stained of that colour; and a large one at the N. end, consisting of five lights reaching almost from bottom to top, and erected, as they say, at the charge of 5 maiden sisters. The painting represents embroidery.

The CITY belongs to neither of the Ridings, but enjoys its own liberty, and a jurisdiction over 36 villages and

and hamlets in the neighbourhood, on the W. side of the Ouse, on which it stands. This liberty is called the Ainsty, or county, of the city of York. It was anciently esteemed the second city in England, and is still so with respect to the ground it covers; but as to the number of houses, trade and riches, it is much excelled by Bristol: it is however a very fine city, and the great ornament of the northern parts. It is pleasantly situated, and divided into four wards, containing 28 parishes, and walled, but not fortified with artillery. The river Ouse from the N. passes through it, and divides it into two parts, joined together by a stone bridge of five arches, of which the middlemost is reckoned, for height, breadth, and architecture, to be equal to the Rialto at Venice, though not to that at Blenheim. The great council chamber, the exchequer, the sheriff's court, and the two city prisons are kept upon this bridge. The river brings large vessels to the key, though at sixty miles distance from the ocean. It has four large well built gates, and five posterns: The King's palace, called the Manor-house, lies on the N. side of the river Ouse, but is far from being splendid, having been almost demolished in the civil wars. The other most remarkable structures are the Guildhall, which is longer, and in some respects superior to that of London. Near it is the statue of King Edgar, who rebuilt the city and St. Anthony's-hall, in which there is one room big enough to hold most of the inferior tradesmen of the city. The market-house in the street called the Pavement, is a curious piece of architecture, supported by 12 pillars of the Tuscan order; and there is another still larger in a square, called Thursday market. In this city are 17 churches; of which All-Hallows-church has the finest Gothic steeple perhaps in England. This town is said by a late writer to resemble Ghent in Flanders. The houses are generally of the old timber building, like those at Canterbury; but there is abundance of fine ones round the Minster; though the Bishop's-palace is almost in ruins, and the Prebendaries have no houses but what they hire.

The Assembly Room for the nobility and gentry, was designed by the late Earl of Burlington. The grand Egyptian-hall, which is 123 feet long, communicates with the common ball room, 66 feet long, 22 in height and breadth. It is thought that the hall is the best room in the kingdom, excepting the Banqueting-house at Whitehall.—The castle was built by William the Conqueror; but repaired, or rather rebuilt, for the convenience of keeping the assize, in 1701. A handsome Mansion-house was erected here for the Lord Mayor, in 1728.

Cheapness of provisions brings many strangers to reside here in the winter; and the ancient remains of the Roman skill and grandeur, besides the ruins of abbeys, churches and castles of a later date, attract and detain every traveller who is curious in antiquities. Among others there is an arch at Micklegate-bar, and a multangular tower and wall near a place called the Mint-yard, both built in the time of the Romans; and in other parts of the city have been found many Roman altars, inscriptions, urns, coins, &c. There are some Saxon coins still extant, called Peter-pence, that were struck in this city. The members for this city may claim a seat in the House of Commons next to the members for London, upon what is called the privy-counsellors bench; a privilege which the latter exercise on the first day's meeting of every new parliament. In 1738, a subscription was set on foot for an infirmary, which was erected in this city.

KNARESBOROUGH, 13 miles from York, 210 from Lond. is almost encompassed by the river Nid, which issues from the bottom of Craven-hill; it has the remains of a castle on a craggy rock, built by Serlo de Burgh, soon after the conquest.

HARROGATE, is famous for medicinal springs, so near to each other in situation, and yet so different in operation, that England cannot parallel them, viz. 1. the sweet Spaw, or vitrioline well, acknowledged by physicians to be a sovereign remedy in several distempers. This is about 3 miles from Knareborough, in the Forest.

rest. 2. The Stinking Spaw, or sulphur well, so foetid, that they who drink it are forced to hold their nose. 3. St. Mingo's, the name of a British saint, a cold bath. 4. The Dropping-well, near the town of Knaresborough, and the most famous of all the petrifying wells in England, so called because it drops from the spongy porous rock hanging over it. The ground which receives it before it falls into the well, is for the distance of 12 yards become a solid rock. From the well it runs into the Nid, where the spring water has formed a rock that stretches several yards into the river.

RIPON, 6 miles from Boroughbridge, 217 from Lond. is a large pleasant well built and populous town, between the river Ure, and the little river Skell, with two bridges over the former, one of which has at least 13 arches. This town is a staple for wool, which is bought up here every week by the clothiers from Leeds, Wakefield and Halifax. The church is both parochial and collegiate; it has three steeples, and is large but very plain. The market-place of this town is reckoned the finest square of the kind in England, and adorned with a curious obelisk, 82 feet high, on the top of which is a bugle horn, the arms of the town.

BOROUGHBRIDGE, 6 miles from Rippon, 203 from Lond. is a borough and post town; so called from its stately bridge of stone over the Ure, which comes from Rippon; and being joined a little below by the river Swale, is then called the Ouse. It is supposed, that seven or eight thousand pounds is laid out yearly here in hard ware, brought for sale at the fair in June.

PONTEFRAC, 18 miles from York, 175 from Lond. is a neat built town, not far from the river Aire, and its conflux with the Calder. In the ruinous castle is still to be seen the place where the collegiate church of St. Clement stood. The floor, walls and roof are all of one kind of stone, dug out of the rock. It was built by Kildebert Lacy, in the reign of William the Conqueror, and demolished immediately after the catastrophe of K. Charles I. The market-place, near the middle of the town, is spacious, commodious, and well stored

with meat, corn, and other provisions, as its fairs are with horses, sheep, and other cattle. In the grounds about this town, vast quantities of the best liquorice are produced. The Roman way, called Ermin-street, from which it struck off at Lincoln, and passed over the united rivers Aire and Calder to Tadcaster, and so on to York, is plainly to be seen in several places betwixt this and Doncaster,

SHEFFIELD, 160 miles from Lond. on the borders of Derbyshire, is an antient, large, thriving and populous town, on the river Dun, over which it has a stone bridge: the streets are narrow, and the houses look black from the continual smoak of the forges; this town having been noted several hundred years for cutlers and smiths' wares. The first mills in England for turning grind-stones were set up here. A great deal of silver work is done in this town, especially in plating with silver; which is much facilitated by their lately obtaining an assay in the town; as they were formerly obliged to send all their silver goods to be assayed and stamped in London. Here was a castle built by King Henry III. but demolished after his death. An hospital was erected here, and endowed by Gilbert Talbot, an Earl of Shrewsbury. They have a silk mill on the model of that at Derby.

ROTHERHAM, 6 miles from Sheffield, 160 from Lond. has a fine stone bridge over the same river, near its conflux with the Rother, and is a neat handsome town. Rotherham, Archbishop of York, who was a native of this place, founded a college here, now converted into dwelling-houses. On the bridge was a handsome chapel, now used as a house for poor inhabitants. They have iron works and a pottery here.

DONCASTER, 160 miles from Lond. has its name from its situation on the river Don or Dun, and its now ruinous castle. It is very antient, has formerly suffered much by fire, but is now noble, spacious and populous; and has a fine Gothic church, with an admirable steeple, and the monuments of two remarkable benefactors; 1. Tho. Ellis, who founded St. Thomas's-hospital here; and

and Robert Byrks, who gave Rossington-wood to the public, and has the following epitaph:

Howe, howe, who's here?
I, Robin of Doncastere,
And Margaret my fere.
That I spent, that I had,
That I gave, that I have,
That I left, that I lost.

A. D. 1597.

Quoth Robertus Byrks, who in this world did reign
Threescore years and seven, but lived not ane.

The town stands in the road from York to London. The manufactures are knit waistcoats, petticoats, gloves and stockings. It has two strong and lofty stone bridges over the Dun.

TICKHIL, 6 miles from Doncaster, 156 from London. is a distinct liberty of itself; it appears to have been formerly a place of some figure, and to have taken its name from a mount or hill, whereon was a castle; the mount remains to this day.

BAWTRY, 152 miles from London. is a town situate near the Idle, which parts this Riding from Nottinghamshire. It is of chief note for its trade in mill-stones; and, being a great thoroughfare in the road to Scotland, is well furnished with inns.

BARNESLY, 15 miles from Doncaster, 173 from London. is a well built town, noted for its trade in wire. It stands on the side of a hill; and is called Black Barnesley, because of its sooty look.

WAKEFIELD, 11 miles from Ferry-bridge, and 183 from London. is a large well built town, famous even in Camden's time for its cloth trade, neat buildings, great markets, and its bridge over the Calder. The town continues in a flourishing condition, and is situated in a fruitful soil and pleasant country. It consists chiefly of three large streets centring near the church. In the market-place is a beautiful cross, being an open colonnade of the Doric order, supporting a dome with an

ascent, by an open circular pair of stairs, leading to a room that receives light from a turret at the top, and where they transact the public business. The church is a large and stately Gothic structure with a lofty spire. The town is not a corporation, but is thought to contain near as many inhabitants as the city of York.

HUTHERSFIELD, 14 miles from Barnsley, 189 from London. This is one of the five towns in this county that have the greatest share in the cloathing trade: for which it has a large weekly market.

SNATH, 11 miles from Pomfret, 174 from Lond. near the junction of the river Aire with the Dun, is a small town, but has a good trade by means of the river.

HALIFAX, 15 miles from Wakefield, 197 from Lond. stands on the left side of the Calder, extending from W. to E. upon the steep descent of a hill. It is one of the most populous, as well as most extensive parishes in England, being about 30 miles in circumference, and has 12 chapels, besides the mother church, and 16 meeting-houses. The inhabitants are very numerous and industrious in the woollen trade. It is remarked, that this and the neighbouring towns are all so employed in the woollen manufacture, that they scarcely sow more corn than will keep their poultry; and that they feed very few oxen or sheep: so that what corn they have comes chiefly out of the East-Riding, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, their black cattle from thence and Lancashire, their sheep and mutton from the adjacent counties, their butter from the East and North Ridings, and their cheese from Cheshire and Warwickshire. Their markets are prodigiously thronged by persons to sell their manufactures and buy provisions. The church is a venerable pile, with many extraordinary monuments.

LEEDS, 14 miles from Halifax, 191 from Lond. is very pleasantly situated on the N. side of the river Aire, over which it has a magnificent stone bridge to the suburbs. It has been a long time famous for the woollen manufacture, and is one of the largest and most flourishing towns in the county. It has 3 churches; that of St. John's was built in 1634, by one Mr. Harrison; who

who also built and endowed an hospital for the relief of honest poor; a free school, and a stately cross for the conveniency of the market. It is surprising to a stranger when he first comes to this town to see the vast quantities of cloth for sale on a market day. The merchants of this place ship them off at Hull, for Holland, Ham-burgh, and the N. from whence they are dispersed into the Netherlands, Germany, Poland, &c. The cloth market was formerly on the bridge, afterwards in the high street, but was lately removed into a prodigious building, erected by subscription in 1758 for that very purpose. Beside this grand market, which is entirely for mixt cloths, there is another (held in a different hall) for white cloths, ready to be dyed, according to order. The shambles are daily covered with flesh; and the town is well supplied (though so distant from the sea) with fish: and with most incredible quantities of fruit, particularly apples, &c. of which latter 500 load have been counted in a day. The Guildhall is an elegant building, adorned with a fine statue of Q. Anne in white marble. The river Aire, being navigable here by boats, opens a communication from the town with Wakefield, York and Hull, to which places it exports other goods besides the woollen manufacture, and furnishes the city of York with coals. On a place called Tower-hill, the ruins of an old tower are still remaining; and they say, that from the materials of that structure, the bridge was erected over the Aire. It is very strong and substantial, being built of large square stones scarce to be paralleled. The workhouse in this town is built of free-stone, and part of it has been used many years as an hospital. The only parochial church is St. Peter's, on the ceiling of which the delivering of the law to Moses is finely painted in fresco by Parmentier. The roof, which is for the most part covered with lead, is supported by three rows of Gothic pillars; and the steeple is founded upon four prodigious large pillars and arches. The new church, built about 40 years since, is a very elegant structure. Here are several springs of the medicinal kind, viz. St. Peter's, an extreme cold one. 2. Eyebright-well, which

stands on a declivity near the Monk's-pit. 3. A spring at the foot of the High-Dam, whose water by the powder of galls turns purple; this has been drank medicinally with good success.

BRADFORD, 9 miles from Leeds, is another town eminent for the woollen manufacture.

ABERFORTH, 8 miles from Leeds, 184 from London, stands on the great Roman causeway, which, in many places, between this and Castleford-bridge, appears as entire as at first. Near the town is still to be seen the ruins of an old castle, called by the inhabitants Castle-cary. The manufacture of this place is pin-making.

SHERBORN, 4 miles from Aberforth, 181 from London, has an hospital or school for 24 poor orphans. From this school four exhibitioners, in St. John's college, Cambridge, have an allowance of 7l. 13s. 4d. per annum each, at the nomination of the Dean of York.

SELBY, 7 miles from Sherborn, is a populous though small town, with a good trade, on the river Ouse, which brings up large vessels to it. In 1690 part of its old beautiful church, with half the steeple, fell down, but was rebuilt.

TADCASTER, nine miles from York, 188 from London, is well provided for travellers. Coins of Roman Emperors have been dug up here; and there are the marks of a trench quite round the town, and of the platform of an old castle, out of the ruins of which about 140 years ago a fine stone bridge was built over the river Wharfe. Oglethorpe, Bishop of Carlisle, founded an hospital here.

WETHERBY, 6 miles from Tadcaster, 191 from London, is a good town pleasantly situated on the same river.

SKIPTON, 216 miles from London, is situated near the river Aire, and surrounded with steep craggy precipices. It is a handsome town, considering the manner of building in these mountainous parts. In the church is the monument of George Clifford, Earl of Cumberland, the famous sailor in Q. Elizabeth's time, who died in 1675, after having built or repaired six castles, erected seven chapels and churches, and richly endowed two stately hospitals.

hospitals. The town is plentifully supplied with all manner of provisions; it has a grammar-school, and a library for the use of that and the church.

RIPLEY, 5 miles from Knaresborough, has a bridge over the Nyd, and consists chiefly of one street.

BURNSAL, 6 miles from Skipton, has a stone bridge over the Wharfe, and a free school liberally endowed by Sir William Craven.

BURSTALL, 7 miles from Leeds, is a little town noted for the manufacture of broad cloth, and for dying.

The principal antiquities and remarkables of the West Riding, besides those already mentioned, are,

1. **CAMBODUNUM**, near Almondbury and Huddersfield, where is a triple fortification still visible.

2. **TEMPLE-BOROUGH**, has a fair Roman fortification near the river Dun. On the N. side of the river is,

3. **WINCO-BANK**, from which a large bank is continued almost 5 miles, being in one place called Danes Bank, in another Temple-Bank, and in a third Devil's-Bank.

4. **CONISBOROUGH**, has an old castle called in British Caercanan, which stands upon a rock near the river Dun, on a pleasant ascent from the river. The walls of this piece of antiquity are still standing. It is supposed to be the place where Hengist was slain by the Britons. In the church-yard under the wall, lies a very antient stone of blue marble, ridged like a coffin, with antique figures on it, one of which represents a man with a target behind him.

5. At **COOKRIDGE**, in the way from Ilkley to Adle, antient Roman coins have been dug up, and upon the Moor, in 1702 were discovered the marks of a Roman town. Among the ruins are many fragments of Roman urns, and others of their plastics, with the remains of a large stone aqueduct. At a little distance is a Roman camp pretty entire.

6. In the vestry of the church of Aldborough is the figure of Pan in rough stone, formerly dug up near the church. Urns and vessels of red earth have been discovered,

vered, generally wrought with various figures, knots, flowers, &c. as also several pavements near the surface, consisting of little stones in mosaic.

7. The DEVIL'S-BOLTS, or pyramids near Borough-bridge, which are three huge stones set an end, thought to be monuments of victories, or of British deities.

8. At GIGGLESWICK, near the river Ribble, at the foot of a very high mountain, is the most noted spring in England, which ebbs and flows sometimes thrice in an hour, and the water subsides three quarters of a yard at the reflux, though it is 30 miles from the sea.

9. Near SANDBECK, in a field called Cuckold's-Haven, is a remarkable yew-tree of a greenish colour, and very singular form; its branches rise one above another in natural circles, of dimensions as exact as if they were the production of art, but more beautiful; it is hedged in, being esteemed a great curiosity.

10. At LOUGHTON, not far from Rotherham, is a church with a tower and spire of Gothic architecture, standing so conspicuous on a high hill, that it may be discerned at the distance of 50 or 60 miles.

11. Near KIRKLEY, 6 miles from Halifax, is the funeral monument of the famous Robin Hood, who died in 1247; the curious inscription was as follows:

*Here undernead dis laid stean
Lais Robert Earl of Huntingtun:
Nea areir ver az hie sa gaud,
An pipl kauld im Robin Heud
Sick utlawz hie and is men
Vil England niver se agen.*

In modern English thus:

*Here, under this memorial stone,
Lies Robert Earl of Huntingdon:
As he, no archer e'er so good;
And people call'd him Robin Hood:
Such outlaws as his men and be
Again may England never see.*

12. FERRYBRIDGE, a mile from Pontefract; is noted for a battle fought there in 1461, between the houses of York and Lancaster. A large causeway extends from hence to Brotherton.

The EAST RIDING is the smallest of the 3 divisions; it is bounded on the N. and W. by the Derwent and the Ouse, on the S. by the Humber, and on the E. by the German ocean. Its chief towns are Beverley, Hull, and Headon, (which send members to parliament,) Burlington, Wighton, Howden and Pocklington.

BEVERLEY, 8 miles from Hull, 182 from Lond. is remarkable for several antiquities. Upon opening a grave here, a leaden plate was found with an inscription, signifying that the church was burnt in 1188; and that in 1197, inquisition was made after the bones of John de Beverley, which were happily found and re-interred. The Minster is one of the most elegant churches in England; few cathedrals exceed it: the roof is an arch of stone. In it are several monuments of the Percy's, who have added a little chapel to the choir, in the windows of which are the pictures of many of the family drawn on the glass. At the upper end of the choir, which is paved with marble of four different colours, stands the seat called the Freed Stool, i. e. the chair of sanctuary, formerly placed in the church for criminals; of one entire stone, said to have been brought from Dunbar in Scotland. Besides its Minster, it has another church, St. Mary's; they are reckoned two of the finest and largest parochial churches in the kingdom. Here are proper offices for the public register of all deeds, wills, &c. in this Riding, pursuant to an act of parliament procured for that purpose. Its principal manufactures are malt, oatmeal, tanned leather, and bone-lace. The market-place is large, and adorned with a beautiful cross supported by eight stone columns, each of one entire stone. The streets are spacious and well paved.

HULL, 173 miles from Lond. denominated in all ancient writings KINGSTON upon HULL, from its situation on that river, has two churches, one called Trinity,

or

or High Church, the other St. Mary's, or Low Church; the former is a spacious beautiful building, the pillars of which are remarkably small; and had before the reformation 12 chantries, in one of which is now a neat library. Here are also several meeting-houses, an exchange built in 1621, a custom-house, and an engine for making salt water fresh. Here is also a free school, with a hall over it belonging to the merchants, who have founded an hospital called Trinity-house, in which are maintained many distressed seamen and their widows. The town carries on a great trade in sail-making; is large, close built, and exceeding populous; has a wooden bridge over the Hull. The foreign trade of this town is much more considerable than their home trade, their customs being reckoned at between 30 and 40,000*l.* per annum; and more merchant ships belong to it than to any other port in England, except London, Bristol, and Yarmouth: owing in some measure to the great number of rivers which fall into the sea near it. The rigid discipline beggars meet with here, makes Hull tremendous to them: all foreign poor are whipped out, and the poor of the town are set to work. They have a cant litany among them, viz. "From Hell, Hull, and Halifax, good Lord deliver us."

HEADON, 8 miles from Hull, is a small, pleasant, well-built town near the Humber. It was formerly considerable both for merchants and shipping, and there are still the remains of two churches, besides one in present use; but it has not now the least appearance of its antient grandeur.

HOWDEN, 20 miles from Hull, a pretty large town with a harbour for boats near the Ouse.

WIGHTON, 10 miles from Beverley, is a small but antient town near the river Foulness.

PATRINGTON, 10 miles from Headon, is an antient town corporate, has a small harbour within the promontory of Spurnhead; and a fine prospect toward the ocean, on one side, and both shores of the Humber, on the other.

SPURN-

SPURNHEAD is the very point or outermost part of the Promontory, by some called Conny Hill; where a light house and a day mark are erected.

HORNSEY stands upon the coast of the German ocean, a small arm of which almost surrounds it. The church has a high spire, which serves as a sea mark.

BURLINGTON, 10 leagues from the Spurnhead, 208 miles from Lond. is situated in a bay or creek, which is a safe harbour in case of strong gales of wind and winter storms from N. N. W. It is of late become a place of good trade, and has a good corn-market. A little to the north-east runs out that promontory called

FLAMBOROUGH HEAD, which has a watch tower with lights for the sailors. The cliffs are of a tremendous height and amazing grandeur. Beneath are vast caverns, some of them formed with a natural arch, giving a romantic passage to the boats, from which we view them. The town is on the north side, consists of about 150 small houses, entirely inhabited by Fishermen, few of whom die in their beds, but meet their fate in the element they are so conversant with.

The **NORTH RIDING** is, as it were, the frontier of the other two ridings, extending along the coast from that called Filey Bay, on the N. side of Flamborough Head, as far as the mouth of the river Tees, which separates it on the N. from Durham. It runs from the sea in a narrow track of near 60 miles as far as Westmoreland, and is bounded on the S. E. and S. W. with the Derwent and Ure, which divide it from the E. and W. Ridings. The N. W. part of it is called Richmondshire. The boroughs of this Riding, which send members to parliament, are Scarborough, Malton, Thirsk, Northallerton, and Richmond.

SCARBOROUGH, (49 miles from York, from London through York 237 miles; by Lincoln and Hull, 218 miles) is a large town, built in form of a crescent on the side of a steep hill. At one extremity are the ruins of a castle first erected in the reign of King Stephen, but rebuilt in a more splendid manner by Henry II. It is now almost demolished. On the top of the rock is a pleasant plain

plain of about 19 acres of land; and has a fountain in it which serves the garrison. It has a commodious key, but may be said to be absolutely without trade, though it owns above 200 vessels which are hired out for freight in the coal-trade between Newcastle and Lond. this port and Hull being the only safe ones in stormy weather on this side Yarmouth. The pier is maintained by a duty upon coals, and the mariners have erected an hospital for widows and poor seamen, which is maintained by a rate on vessels, and deductions out of seamen's wages. From the middle of November, herrings are taken here in great numbers. Besides herrings, they catch ling, cod-fish, haddock, turbot, and other fish in great plenty; and sometimes, whiting and mackarel. The spaw-well is at the foot of an exceeding high cliff, rising perpendicular out of the earth like a boiling pot, near the level of high-water mark in spring tides, with which it is often overflowed. It is never dry, and in an hour yields 24 gallons of water. These waters, which are frequented most in the hottest months, are purgative and diuretic, nearly of the same nature with those of Pyrmont in Germany, or Cheltenham in Gloucestershire. Here is good accommodation, besides assemblies and public balls. The resort of company is prodigious to this place of gaiety, where, with numbers, health is the pretence, but dissipation the end. The spaw-house lies a quarter of a mile S. of the town on the sands, fronting the sea to the E. and has a high cliff on the back of it to the W. the top of which was 54 yards above high-water level till December 1737, when it rent 224 yards in length from the main land, and 36 in breadth, to the compass of about an acre, and slowly sunk with cattle feeding upon it near 12 yards perpendicular. During this time the place under the cliff, where people used to walk, rose six or seven yards above its common level, for above 100 yards in length, on each side of the staith or wharf adjoining to the house; and the wells rising with it, the water, failed, and the spring was lost for some time; but upon rebuilding the wharf, and clearing away the ruins, it was

restored to its former state after

after a diligent search recovered, to the great joy of the inhabitants.

MALTON, 19 miles from York, 216 from Lond. is a populous town, has a good stone bridge over the Derwent, in that called Rydale, a very fine, pleasant and fruitful vale. The Derwent is made navigable to this town from the river Ouse. The town is divided by the river into two parts, the old and new. It stands in the road from Scarborough to York, is accommodated with great inns, one or two of them more like noblemen's houses, and its Saturday's market is the best in the country for black cattle and other commodities.

THIRSK, 20 miles from York, 220 from Lond. had antiently a very strong castle, demolished by Henry II.

NORTH-ALLERTON, 8 miles from Thirsk, 223 from Lond. is a borough of great antiquity, situated in a level country, watered by the river Wiske, and encompassed with fruitful fields. It consists chiefly of one street well built. David King of Scots was defeated near this town, in 1138, by the English, in that called the battle of the standard, because of the extraordinary standard then brought into the field by the English, being a large chariot with a tall mast fixed in it, on the top of which was a cross, and under that a banner. Historians observe, that this banner was never displayed but in the greatest expeditions, when the very government itself was at stake. The field of battle is to this day called Standard Hill, and some hollow places, where the slain were supposed to be buried after the battle, Scots Pits.

RICHMOND, 15 miles from Northallerton, 230 from Lond. is inclosed with walls of a small compass, though it has populous suburbs. The walls with a very strong castle were built by Allen, the first Earl of Richmond, who gave the town this name. It has a stone bridge over the Swale, which rushes among the rocks at bottom with a terrible noise, and encompasses almost half the town. It is well inhabited, has two good churches, a spacious market-place, and three gates leading to its suburbs. Many of the houses are built with free stone, and the streets are well paved.

Placca

Places of note on the coast are,

ROBIN HOOD'S BAY, N. of Scarborough, about a mile broad, a good road for ships, and the most noted place for the fishing trade of any in these parts: on the adjacent moor are three little hills, called Robin Hood's Butts. Vast mountains of alum-stone, from which that salt is extracted, are found in the neighbouring roads. The alum works in this country were discovered by Sir Thomas Chaloner in Q. Elizabeth's reign, who it is said seduced workmen from the Pope's alum works near Rome, to manage them, for which his Holiness thundered out against Sir Thomas a most dreadful curse; notwithstanding which the Chaloners continue to flourish there to this very day.

WHITBY, 18 miles from Scarborough, 50 from York, is a well built town on the river Esk, where it falls into the sea. It has a custom-house, a commodious harbour, and about 270 ships belong to it of 80 tons burthen. Here is a small haven with piers, which being decayed, were lately rebuilt.

GISBOROUGH, 22 miles from Whitby, is a fine well-built town, in a delightful situation, on a rising ground, 5 miles from the mouth of the river Tees: it stands so high, that it would be very cold, if the breezes from the sea were not qualified by some intervening hills.

PICKERING, 9 miles from Malton, 223 from Lond. is a pretty large town on a hill, among the wild mountains of Blackmore. Here are the ruins of a castle.

YARM, or YARUM, 12 miles from Gisborough, 248 from Lond. has a fine stone bridge over the Tees. It is a corporate though a small town, and carries on considerable trade by sea, for lead, corn and butter.

STOKESLY, 239 miles from Lond. is a tolerably good town near the source of the Levan. It is a corporation, but consists only of one well-built street, with a good market, and a beast fair, reckoned the greatest in Engl.

BEDALL, 7 miles from Northallerton, 219 from Lond. is a little town in that part called Richmondshire, upon a rivulet that runs into the Swale. It is chiefly of note

for

for a Roman causeway which passeth from it through Richmond, to Barnard's Castle.

MIDLAM, 9 miles from Bedall, 229 from Lond. on the river Ure, had formerly a very strong castle, but is now only noted for a manufacture of woollen cloth.

MASHAM, 7 miles from Midlam, 220 from Lond. carries on the cloth manufacture, has a good mill on the river Ure, and a large warren on Ellington Moor.

The principal Antiquities, besides those mentioned, are,

The ruins of BYLAND ABBEY, near Thirsk, founded by Roger de Mowbray, A. D. 1134.

The ruins of BOLTON ABBEY, near Skipton, founded by William Meschines, and Cecilia his wife, A. D. 1120.

BURSTALL ABBEY, near Hull, for monks of St. Martin's, settled by Walter Archbishop of York, A. D. 1115.

EASBY, and EGLESTON ABBEYS, both in the neighbourhood of Richmond. The former was founded by Roald, constable of Richmond, A. D. 1152. The latter by Ralph de Multon; but when is uncertain.

The ruins of FOUNTAIN'S ABBEY, in Skeldale, 3 miles from Rippon. This was a famous monastery, and founded in 1132 by Thurston, Archbishop of York.

WICKHAM PRIORY, near Malton, founded by Walter Espee, and Adelina his wife, A. D. 1122.

KIRKSTAL ABBEY, near Leeds, possessed about the year 1153, by Cistercian monks.

MOUNT GRACE, near Osmotherly, formerly a monastery of Carthusian monks, founded by the E. of Surry, in the reign of Richard II.

ST. MARTIN'S ABBEY, near Richmond, once inhabited by monks of the Benedictine order.

ST. MARY'S ABBEY in York, founded by William Rufus.

RIVAULX ABBEY, near Helmesly, founded by Walter Espee, A. D. 1132.

ROCHE ABBEY, near Tickhill, founded, 1147, by Richard de Builli, and Richard Fitz Turgus.

Ruins of SANDAL CASTLE, near Wakefield, built by John Plantagenet, Earl of Surrey and Warren, in the reign of Edward II. and demolished in 1648.

SAMLEY ABBEY, founded by W. de Piercy, 1147.

Henry Jenkins, a native of the North-Riding, was a remarkable instance of longevity. He died in 1670 at the age of 169 years. He had been butler in Lord Conyers's family, after that a fisherman, and lastly a beggar. He was once called upon to give evidence of a fact 140 years past. A monument was erected to his memory at Bolton in 1743.

SEATS.

SHEFFIELD MANOR, Duke of Norfolk.

WENTWORTH-CASTLE, Earl of Strafford, Barnsley.

SANDBECK, near Tickhill, Earl of Scarborough.

WENTWORTH, near Rotherham, Marquis of Rockingham.

Sir Brian Cooke's, Bart. at Wheatly, near Doncaster.

Mr. Copley's, at Sprotborough near Doncaster.

RIBSTON-HALL, belonging to Sir John Goodrick, Bart.

Sir Edward Blacket's, at Newbie, near Rippon.

DENTON-Hall, belonging to Mr. Ibbotson.

Sir Thomas Slingsby's, at Scriven, near Knareborough.

Mr. Auditor Aislaby's, at Studley, where there is a park, or rather garden, which art and nature have joined to render one of the most delightful spots in England.

WRESEL CASTLE, Earl of Egremont.

Late Earl of Burlington's, at Londesburg.

The Earl of Exeter's, at Snape Park, 7 miles from Rippon.

CASTLE HOWARD, 5 m. from Malton, Earl of Carlisle.

SKIPTON CASTLE, belonging to the Earl of Thanet.

HORNBY-CASTLE, Earl of Holderness.

WHORLTON-CASTLE, belonging to Lord Bruce.

Earl Fauconberg's, Newborough Abbey, 7 miles from Thirsk.

WILTON-CASTLE, 21 miles from York, Earl Cornwallis.

BOLTON-CASTLE, near Skipton, Duke of Bolton's.

Lord

Lord Langdale's, at Holm, 14 miles from York.
 TEMPLE NEWSAM, Lord Irwin's, in the West Riding.
 INGLEBY MANOR, Sir William Foulis's, Bart.
 ACKLAM, in Cleveland, Sir William Hustler's.
 CONSTABLE BURTON, Sir Marmaduke Wyvill, Bart.
 William Chaloner, Esq; of Gisborough, in Cleveland.
 SWILLINGTON, Sir James Lowther's.
 William Turner, Esq; Kirkleatham, in Cleveland.

The County Palatine, or Bishoprick of DURHAM

IS bounded on the S. by Yorkshire; by Cumberland on the W. by Northumberland on the N. and by the G. Ocean on the E. It is about 39 miles in length, 35 in breadth, and 107 in circumference: contains four wakes, one city, eight market towns, 16 rivers, 21 parks, four castles, 52 parishes, besides 28 chapels. Camden mentions 118 parishes; but it must be remembered that he includes the whole diocese, taking in Northumberland.

The soil of this county cannot be ranked among the most fertile, but it has a variety of corn fields, meadows, and pastures, and is very rich in mines of coal, great quantities of which are annually exported under the name of Newcastle coal.

DURHAM, 257 miles from Lond. is situated on a hill almost surrounded with a river; and was built about 70 years before the Conquest. The approach to it is romantic, through a deep hollow, cloathed on each side with wood. The cathedral is an old but magnificent pile, and adorned with a large cloyster, a library and chapter house, a dormitory, a treasury, singing-school, and a new library. The church has in the center a spacious cross isle; at the W. end was the chapel of the Virgin Mary, called Galilee, adorned on the outside with two handsome steeples. It has a set of eight musical bells, and the whole building is strongly vaulted, and supported by large pillars. The choir is neat, the organ large

large and good, and the font of marble. There is a handsome screen at the entrance of the choir, and the cross isle beyond it is placed at the extremity of the church, in which respect it is not to be matched in any other cathedral. The chapter-house, where 16 bishops are interred, is very antient, is in form of a theatre, and has a fine seat at the upper end for the installment of the bishops. The ornaments and decorations of this church for administration of the divine offices, are richer than those of any other church in England. The bones of the venerable Bede are interred in St. Mary's Chapel, and over the tomb hangs an old parchment scroll, giving an account of his virtues.

Besides the cathedral here are 6 parish churches. Southward of the cathedral is the college, a spacious court, the whole of which has been rebuilt or much repaired since the restoration. Above the college-gate is the exchequer, and at the W. the guest hall, for the entertainment of strangers. On the N. side of the college school is a house for the master, and between the church-yard and castle an open area, called the Palace Green; to the W. of which is the Shire Hall, where the assizes and sessions are held for the county; and near it a library. On the E. is an hospital built and endowed by Bishop Cosin; on the N. side is a castle, now the bishop's palace, built by William the Conqueror, the outer gatehouse of which is at present the county goal. The toll-booth near St. Nicholas's church, and the cross and conduit in the market-place, with the two bridges over the Were, are the other principal public buildings. The form of this city is not improperly compared to a crab, the market-place resembling the body, and the streets the claws; for the streets following the course of the Were, which runs almost round that part of the city where the cathedral and Bishop's palace stand, are scarce two of them joined together. Near this city are the remains of the Roman military way, called Ikenild-street; and at Nevil's Cross, in that neighbourhood, the famous battle in 1346 was fought, where the Scots army was destroyed, and David their King taken prisoner.

BARNARD'S CASTLE, 243 miles from London, on the north side of the river Tees, is a handsome town, and well built, but consists only of one main street, and several lanes branching out. The chief manufactures are stockings, bridles and belts. The place has its name from a castle built here by Barnard, great grandson of John Baliol; the ruins of which still remain.

MARWOOD, is a little town higher up the same river, noted also for the stocking manufacture, and a park, which extends itself from thence to Barnard's Castle.

DARLINGTON, 8 miles from Stockton, 239 from Lond. has a good stone bridge over the Skern, which runs into the Tees. It is a large market and post town, a great thoroughfare from London to Berwick, and noted for the linen manufacture, particularly that sort called huckaback. The waters of the Skern have been esteemed so famous for bleaching linen, that great quantities have been sent hither from Scotland for that purpose.

OXENHALL, a hamlet belonging to this town has 3 deep wells, commonly called Hell Kettles, taken notice of by travellers; and are supposed to have been sunk by an earthquake. There have been many absurd suppositions and romantic stories, that they have a communication by caverns with the river Skern; but it is indisputable that the waters are of a different kind from that of the river.

STOCKTON, 18 miles from Durham, 244 from Lond. is a well built town of great business, situated on the Tees, two leagues from its mouth. The river is capable of receiving large ships at the entrance, but the current renders it dangerous. Here is a new church built on the ruins of a small chapel. A bridge has been built over the Tees near this town, the great arch of which measures 112 feet; and is said to be the largest in Europe.

HARTLEPOOL, 9 miles from Stockton, stands on a little promontory, 6 miles N. of the Tees, encompassed on all sides except the W. by the sea; and is a famous antient corporation with a very safe harbour. Its market is much reduced, as the town depends almost entirely on fishing, and on the harbour, which is much frequented by

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colliers,

colliers, especially in stress of weather. The shore affords an agreeable prospect to those who sail by, exhibiting a pleasant variety of corn fields, meadows, villages, and other sylvan scenes.

SUNDERLAND, 10 miles from Durham, six leagues from the mouth of the Tees, nine from Tinmouth-Bar, and 270 miles from Lond. stands on the South bank of the river Were, and is a populous well-built borough and sea port, with a very fine church. The sea almost surrounds it at high water, making it a peninsula. It is much talked of for the coal trade; the Sunderland coal burns so slowly, that it is said to make three fires. It contains a great quantity of pyrites, and burns to a heavy reddish cinder, which the magnet discovers to be iron; yet were the harbour sufficiently deep and capacious to admit ships of the like burthen as the river Tyne does, it would be a great loss to Newcastle, for there is a great variety in their coal, and some of it equal to any in England.

SOUTH-SHIELDS, is so called to distinguish it from North-Shields in Northumberland, and because it lies on the S. side of the river Tyne. This is of great note for its salt works, there being above 200 pans for boiling sea water into salt, of which the quantity made is almost incredible; it being computed that there is annually consumed for this purpose 100,000 chaldron of coals. The workmen and officers, &c. employed in these works make a considerable part of the inhabitants; there are also several glass-houses along the Tyne.

BISHOP'S-AUKLAND, 6 miles from Durham, stands pleasantly at the side of a hill, near the conflux of the Were with the Gaunless, a river that comes from the S. It has the appellation of Bishop added, from a magnificent palace belonging to the Bishop of Durham. This town, which is one of the best in the county, stands in a good air, and the houses are generally well built. The church is a handsome edifice; and Bishop Skirlawe erected a stone bridge over the Were, the arch of which is wider than the boasted Rialto at Venice, though little taken notice of by writers.

STAN-

STANHOPE in WERESDALE, a territory so called from the river Were, is a small town, 10 miles from Durham, but has a very spacious park, where the Scots army encamped when they were besieged by K. Edw. III.

The principal antiquities are,

BINCHESTER. where appear large ruins of walls, and Roman coins, called Binchester Pennies, with inscriptions. Antient seals, urns, &c. have been dug up here.

LANCHESTER, 8 miles from Durham, has the Roman Watling-street through it. It is now a tolerable country village with a handsome church, but appears by the ruins to have been much larger formerly, and fortified with a thick, strong wall, and to have contained temples, palaces, barracks for soldiers. &c.

WINSTON, four miles from Barnard's-castle, is another place through which the Roman way passes from Cattarick to Binchester.

PERCEBRIDGE, (or PRIESTBRIDGE, from two Priests who built a bridge here over the Tees) is remarkable for a Roman altar, several urns, and coins, which have been found in the neighbourhood.

At EBCHESTER, upon the Derwent, in the N. W. part of the county, was observed a Roman station, with large suburbs, where, among divers antient monuments, have been found an altar and an urn. The river Derwent has mills, furnaces and forges all the way down for the smelting of lead and silver, and the manufactures of iron and steel.

Other remarkables of the Bishoprick are,

YARROW-MONASTERY, built A. D. 674, by Ceolfridus, K. of Northumberland. The venerable Bede was instructed here.

FINCHALE-PRIORY, near Durham, was originally a hermitage inhabited by St. Godric, who made this the scene of austerities, carried to the most senseless extravagancies. He is reported to have worn an iron shirt next his skin, to have mingled ashes with the flour he made into bread; and left even that should be too palatable,

latable, to have kept it three or four months before he would indulge himself in eating it. In winter, as well as summer, he passed whole nights up to the chin in water, at his devotions; for like St. Anthony, he was haunted by fiends in various shapes; sometimes in the form of beautiful damsels. He cured his wanton inclinations, by rolling naked among thorns and briars, until his body was ulcerated: and to increase his pain, applied salt to the wounds. He died in 1170, and is credited with working miracles: with himself he certainly did, if all this be true; and must have had a miraculous constitution to work upon, if it required so much trouble in subduing!

HANWICK, which stands on the other side of the Were, opposite to Binchester, noted for its wells both sweet and sulphurous, to which there is great resort.

A little below BRANCEPETH, there are many high stones in the channel of the Were, which are never covered but when the river overflows. If water be poured on them, and it mix a little with the stone, it becomes brackish; and at Buttersby when the river is shallow in the summer, and sunk below these stones, a reddish salt water bursts out of them, which grows so white and hard, that they who live thereabout use it for salt.

At SHIRBURN, is a noble hospital, founded by Hugh Pudsey, an extraordinary rich Bishop; and was in the reign of Q. Elizabeth settled by the name of Christ's-hospital for a master and 30 brethren.

Many were the antient privileges of Durham as a county, and of its Bishop as a Count Palatine, who formerly bore in his seal a knight armed on horseback, brandishing a sword with one hand, and holding the arms of the Bishoprick in the other. Edw. I. seized the prerogatives of the Bishop, and took away many of his privileges. Some of which however the succeeding Bishops recovered; and so great was their power even after this abridgement, that it became a maxim that "whatever prerogative the King has without the county of Durham, the Bishop has within it, unless there be some concession or prescription to the contrary." He had power to call a par-

a parliament, and to create Barons to sit in it; to raise taxes and to coin money. But these privileges were abridged by a statute in the 27th of Hen. VIII. which in effect stripped the Bishops of their palatine power, but they and their temporal Chancellors were still permitted to act as Justices of the Peace.

S E A T S.

LUMLEY-CASTLE, near Durham, Earl of Scarborough's, originally a Manor-house; converted into a castle by licence obtained from Richard II. well worth seeing.

DURHAM-CASTLE, the seat of the Bishop.

BISHOP'S-AUKLAND, another seat belonging to that Prelate. This palace was erected by Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham; and was destroyed in the civil wars by Sir Arthur Haslerig. In 1665 it was rebuilt and adorned with a stately chapel by Bishop Cosin.

Earl of Darlington's, at Raby-castle.

Earl Fauconberg's, at Henknowle.

Earl of Carlisle's, at Stanhope.

Sir John Eden's, at West-Aukland.

RAVENSWORTH-CASTLE, Lord Ravensworth.

Mr. Bowes's, at Stretham-castle, in Darlington-ward.

Sir Ralph Conyers's, at Harden.

Mr. Bellasyse's, Brancepeth-castle.

COKER, the seat of Mr. Car, a most romantic situation, laid out with great judgment; the walks are very extensive, abounding with vast precipices.

Mr. Hedworth's, at Chester Deanry.

Mr. Shafto's, at Whitworth, near Darlington.

Mr. Tempest's, Shirburn-house, near Durham.

Mr. Lambton's, Lambton-hall, near Durham.

Mr. Clavering's, Stowhouse.

Mr. Hilton's, Hilton-castle, near Sunderland.

Mr. Forcer's, Harber-house, 4 miles from Durham.

Mr. Ramsey's, Park-house.

Mr. Ellifson's, at Hebborn.

Mr. Plae's, at Denton.

Mr. Smith's, Morton-house, near Durham.

NORTHUMBERLAND

IS bounded on the S. by Durham; on the N. and W. by Scotland and Cumberland; and on the E. by the German ocean. This county, like Cumberland, is divided into wards, of which there are six, containing 11 market towns and 46 parishes. It is 50 miles in length, 40 in breadth, and 150 in circumference; has two rivers, 280 villages, and about 370,000 acres. The soil is various, that on the sea-coast very fruitful; the western parts are mountainous, but afford pasture for sheep. It abounds with coal, which is productive of a surprising trade.

The famous Pict's wall was partly in this county, and partly in Cumberland. The foundations of the towers, or little castles, now termed Castle-steeds, placed at the distance of a mile from one another, and the small fortified towns on the inside, called Chesters, are still visible; but the far greater part of the wall has been carried off to build houses and stone walls about inclosures: the remaining parts, except those situated on wastes and moors, serve either as hedges between the lands, or to distinguish possessions. Before the wall is a broad ditch, even upon the highest hills, from Newcastle to Carlisle, except those places that are sufficiently defended by rocks. The ditch is generally 12 feet broad, and visible in most places.

NEWCASTLE, 271 miles from Lond. an antient large disagreeable and dirty town, but the effect of its vast commerce is apparent for many miles round, by a country finely cultivated, and which bears a most thriving and opulent aspect. It contains near 40,000 inhabitants, stands at the end of the Pict's wall, on the river Tyne, over which it has a fine bridge into the Bishoprick of Durham; and is called Newcastle upon Tyne, to distinguish it from Newcastle Under-line in Staffordshire. It is much enlarged and enriched by its trade on the coast of Germany, and by the sale of its coals to all parts of England, for which, and merchandize, it is become

become the great emporium of the N. parts of England, and of a good part of Scotland, and is, next to York, the finest and largest place in the North. The town of Newcastle may be said to be situate both in Northumberland and the Bishoprick of Durham; though that part of it which is in the latter, is called Gateside, and is like Southwark to Lond. the liberties coming no farther than the great iron gate upon the bridge, which has the arms of the Bishop of Durham carved on the S. and those of Newcastle on the N. side. The situation of the town is very uneven and unpleasant, especially that part which is most considerable for business, and which lies upon the river; for it is built on the declivity of a steep hill, which makes the street difficult and uneasy. It is also crowded with houses, especially in that part of the town best situated for trade. The castle, though old and ruinous, overlooks the whole town. The exchange is a noble and magnificent building, situated in the only broad place of that part of the town; and contiguous both to the river and the custom-house, but too much pent up for want of room. Between the town-wall and the river is a spacious place, firmly wharfed up with a facing of free stone, and makes the finest key in England, except that at Yarmouth; and far more spacious and longer than those at London or Bristol, though not equal to either for business or buildings. Ships of any reasonable burthen lay their broad side to this key, and load and unload with pleasure: but the coal ships generally take in their lading below, between the town and Shields, which is seven miles below Newcastle. The inhabitants of the town have built by subscription a noble hospital for the poor, which is well regulated. Here are 6 churches or chapels, besides that of St. Nicholas, which is a curious fabric, built by David K. of Scotland, in form of a cathedral; with a fine steeple of curious architecture. The corporation is remarkable for having the greatest public revenue in its own right of any in the kingdom, amounting to no less than 8000*l.* per annum. Here are several public edifices beside the exchange, viz. a handsome mansion-house for the Mayor,

who is allowed 600*l.* a year for his table, beside a coach and barge. The bridge, which is very magnificent and vastly strong, is built upon both sides, a small part excepted. The arches of the bridge are spacious, to make room for wherries, keels, and coal lighters, which are continually passing to and from Shields. There is also a surgeons-hall, furnished with skeletons and other curiosities. Dr. Robert Thomlin gave 6000 books to the corporation, and 5*l.* a year for ever to buy others; and Sir Walter Blacket, Bart. erected a handsome repository for them, and settled 25*l.* a year for a librarian. This place is famous for grind-stones, much better than those that used to come from Spain, which are of too soft a grit, and therefore not so useful for many purposes. Here are several glass-houses, and a considerable manufacture has been lately erected for hard ware and wrought iron, resembling that at Sheffield.

MORPETH, 16 miles from Newcastle, 287 from Lond. stands on the river Wentsbeck, over which it has a bridge: the body of the town being on the N. side, and the church with the rest on the S. where also stood the castle, now in ruins. It has a good market on Saturdays for corn, cattle, and all necessary provisions; but that on Wednesday is the largest for cattle in England, except Smithfield. It is a post town and a good thoroughfare. Here are several mills belonging to the Earl of Carlisle, whose father built a noble town-house for the Burgessees, &c.

BERWICK, 335 miles from Lond. situated at the mouth of the Tweed, is a town fortified in the modern way, but is much contracted from its antient extent; the old castle and works now lying at some distance beyond the present ramparts. Abundance of wool is exported from this town; also eggs, which are collected through the country to the annual amount of 14000*l.* It was always before the Union a bone of contention between the two nations; both had an eye upon it, and therefore it was well fortified; but now the works are greatly impaired. It is a county and town of itself, and though situated on the N. side of the Tweed, is included in Northumberland.

land. It has handsome streets, a fine parish church, a town-house, an exchange, and a beautiful bridge of 16 arches over the Tweed, leading to Tweed's Mouth, a suburb where is another large church; and betwixt the town wall and its once stately castle is a handsome suburb, called Castle Gate. Here is a noble salmon fishery esteemed equal to any in England; also a considerable manufacture of fine stockings. The entrance into Scotland from Berwick, has a very unpromising aspect; being destitute of cultivation for some miles: but the long enmity between the two nations, naturally kept the borders waste, by the barbarous inroads of each nation, until the reign of James I. An inattention to improvement by agriculture continued till very lately. But this naked scene soon changes: the wretched hovels are vanishing; comfortable houses rise in their stead, the lands are inclosing, and the banks are planting. A mixture however of the old negligence still continues among the recent improvements; which makes the whole look like a new colony settled in an impoverished country.

NORTH SHIELDS, on the N. side of the Tyne, at its efflux into the sea, may be considered as an appendage to Newcastle as Gravesend is to Lond. and like that chiefly inhabited by Sailors: It has a great number of vessels belonging to it. The streets lie along the shore, where the river forms a little bay, which is a deep and safe road for the laden colliers. Sometimes 400 ships lie here in rows or tiers.

TINMOUTH-CASTLE, is a large stately castle on a very high rock, inaccessible toward the ocean, and also on the E. and N. It is well mounted with cannon, which defends the harbour, or mouth of the Tyne, where are dangerous rocks, called the Black Middins: but to prevent ships running on them in the night, there are light-houses erected, and maintained by the Trinity House in Newcastle; and near the light-houses a fort called Clif-ford's, which actually commands the mouth of the river. Within Tinmouth-castle are to be seen the ruins of a monastery, which was frequently plundered by the Danes. Robert de Mowbray, a Norman, created Earl

of Northumberland by William the Conqueror, erected both the castle and monastery.

HEXHAM, 22 miles from Newcastle, stands on the S. side of the Tyne, a little below the place where by the conflux of the N. and S. Tyne, the main stream is formed. It was once a magnificent place, and the see of a Bishop. The W. end of the church is demolished; the rest stands entire, and is a very stately structure, though much damaged in the civil wars. It is a well-built town; in the church are several remarkable monuments; and in and about the town several remains of antiquity. It is remarkable for several bloody battles.

ALNWICK, a small town, 305 miles from Lond. in the road to Berwick, on the river Aln; famous for bloody battles and for bogs. The castle, the residence of the Percy's, the ancient Earls of Northumberland, is well known in history: "but you look in vain," says a certain writer, * "for any marks of the grandeur of the feudal age; for trophies won by a family eminent in our annals for military process and deeds of chivalry; for halls hung with helms and hauberts, or with the spoils of the chase; for extensive forests, and venerable oaks. You look in vain for the helmet on the tower, the ancient signal of hospitality to the traveller, or for the grey-headed porter to conduct him to the hall of entertainment. The numerous train, whose countenances gave welcome to him on his way, are now no more; and instead of the disinterested usher of the old times, he is attended by a *valet* eager to receive the fees of admittance. The apartments are large, and lately finished in the Gothic stile, with a most incompatible elegance. The gardens are equally inconsistent, trim to the highest degree, and more adapted to a villa near London than the ancient seat of a great Baron. In a word, nothing except the number of unindustrious poor that swarm at the gate, excites any one idea of its former circumstances."

* See Pennant's Tour, 1772.

CHEVIOT HILLS is that famous range of mountains which separate this county from Scotland, and are so high, especially on the N. side, that snow lies in some of the cliffs till Midsummer. They serve also as land marks to sailors. One of them, which is much higher than the rest, looks at a distance like the pike of Teneriff, and is plainly seen from Rosemary Topping in the N. Riding of Yorkshire, 60 miles distant. On the top of it is a smooth pleasant plain half a mile diameter, with a large pond in the middle; from hence may be plainly seen the smoak of the salt pans at Shields, though at 40 miles distance. They have their name from a small village, famous formerly for a free chace, much used by the English and Scotch gentry; and for a fierce battle between the English and Scots, under the command of the Generals Percy and Douglas.

FLODDEN, a village on the river Till, famous for a very bloody battle, wherein the Scots were defeated, in 1513.

HOLY ISLAND, 8 miles from Berwick, so called because it was the see of a Bishop, since removed to Durham. It was the antient Lindisfarn, and has still the remains of a monastery, built by Aiden the Scot, who was sent into England to preach the Gospel to the Northumbrians about 636. It is encompassed by the sea at high water; at low water there is a passage over sands on the W. side to the Continent. It produces corn and rabbits; fish abound on the coast. Here is a pretty town, at the side of which lies a commodious haven, defended by a fort on the hills to the S. E. As this is the only open port between the Firth of Edinburgh, and the Humber, or Yarmouth Roads, it has sometimes proved a great shelter to our merchant ships, especially those from Archangel and the northern parts of the world.

FAIRN ISLANDS, 7 miles from Holy Island, two from Bamborough Castle. On the S. side are a knot of rocks surrounded by the main ocean, where are a fort, the ruins of an old monastery, a tower, and a light-house. They abound with sea fowl.

COQUET ISLAND, 17 miles from Fairn Islands, lies to the S. E. at the mouth of a river of that name, where are vast flocks of wild fowl. The air is reckoned unhealthy by reason of frequent fogs. The soil is barren, and the island often attacked with tempests.

Other remarkables in Northumberland are the improvements of Mr. Salkeld, at Rock and Falladen, in gardening, fruit-trees, &c. which plainly prove that fruits, &c. are capable of improvement and perfection, notwithstanding the coldness of the climate.

The ruins of BRINKEURN PRIORY, founded by William Bertram, and Roger his son.

The beautiful and very antient ruins of WARKWORTH-CASTLE, situated near the sea, on the banks of the Coquet.

The ruins of BAMBOROUGH-CASTLE, built by Ida, the first king of the Northumbrians, formerly of great strength, and accessible only by flights of steps on the S. E. The ruins still very considerable. The remains of a great hall are singular: it had been warmed by two fire-places of a vast size, and from the top of every window ran a flue, like that of a chimney, which reached the summits of the battlements. The flues seemed designed as so many supernumerary chimnies, to give vent to the smoke that the immense fires of those hospitable times filled the rooms with: halls smoky, but filled with good cheer, were in those days thought no inconvenience. Howel ap Rys, when his enemies had fired his house about his ears, told his people to rise and defend themselves like men, for shame; *for he had known as great a smoke in that hall upon a Christmas eve.* (See Pennant's Tour, 1772.) It was vested in trustees, by Lord Crew, Bishop of Durham, for charitable purposes.

PRUDSHORE CASTLE, the station of the first cohort of the Batavi. Now in possession of the Duke of Northumberland.

DUNSTANBURG-CASTLE, on the shore between the Coquet and Fairn Islands, stands on a pleasant fruitful soil; famous for a kind of diamonds, or fine spar, resembling those of St. Vincent's Rock, near Bristol.
Here

Here are the ruins of a famous castle built in the reign of Edward I.

SEATS.

ALNWICK-CASTLE, the Duke of Northumberland's.
Earl of Carlisle's, at Morpeth-castle.

Earl of Tankerville's, at Chillingham.

Sir John Lambert Middleton's, Bart. at Belsoe-castle.

Mr. Errington's, at Errington and Beaufront.

— Ogle, Esq; at Copeland.

Sir Edmund Swinburn's, Bart. at Capheaton.

Thomas Thornton's, Esq; at Nether Witton.

Mr. Shafto, at Habington.

WIDRINGTON-CASTLE, purchased by the York Buildings Company, on Lord Widrington's forfeiture in 1715.

Sir Walter Blacket's, Bart. at Newcastle.

C U M B E R L A N D

IS bounded on the E. with Northumberland and Durham; on the S. E. with Westmoreland; on the S. with a small part of Lancashire; has the Irish sea on the W. and S. W. and Scotland on the N. and N. W. It is 64 miles in length, 40 in breadth, and about 170 in circumference; containing one city, 58 parish churches, besides chapels, 14 market towns, 447 villages; and sends six members to parliament. Though the air, especially in the N. part, is piercing sharp, yet the hills toward Scotland shelter it, and afford good pasture for great flocks of sheep, with a delightful prospect of the verdant plains, and large lakes betwixt them.

CARLISLE, 7 miles from Scotland, 208 from Lond. was once a flourishing city, and one of the stations of the Romans; it has a pleasant situation between the conflux of three fine rivers abounding with fish, viz. the Eden on the N. the Peterill on the E. and the Cauda or Cauda on the W. It is a sea-port, but without ships, merchants,

merchants, or trade; has but two parish churches, St. Cuthbert's and St. Mary's; the latter stands differently from any parish church in England, viz. in the body of the cathedral, which is in the middle of the city, inclosed by a wall; the East part of the cathedral, which is newest, is a fine piece of workmanship; the lower or W. part suffered much in the civil wars, when this city was besieged. The choir of the cathedral is an exact piece of architecture, has a stately E. window 48 feet high, and 30 broad, adorned with pillars of curious workmanship. The roof is elegantly vaulted with wood, and embellished with the arms of France and England; the Percy's, Lucy's, Warren's, &c. This town is the key of England on the W. sea, as Berwick upon Tweed is on the E. sea; it has a bridge over the Eden, which is but a little way from Scotland, the S. part of which indents into England, at least 50 miles farther than it does at Berwick. The castle, if not founded by the Romans, is certainly as antient as the year 680. It is a wealthy populous place, with well-built houses, and 3 gates in the walls, which are about one mile in compass, and broad enough for 3 men to walk a breast on them, viz. the Caldre or Irish Gate on the south; the Richard or Scotch Gate on the north, and the Bother, or English Gate, on the east. It trades chiefly in fustians. Formerly divers foundations have been found of old ruins, as pavement of streets, arches, doors, and pots of money; particularly, in taking up the old foundations of St. Cuthbert's steeple, a bushel of little silver money, called St. Cuthbert's pence, which he and his successors, the bishops of Durham, had a right to coin.

COCKERMOUTH, 12 miles from Whitehaven, 299 from Lond. is a neat built trading town, with a harbour. It lies low between two hills, upon one of which is the church, and on the other, over against it on the W. side of the Cocker, and S. of the Derwent, is the castle, which is very strong; on the gates are the arms of the Molton's, Humphramville's, Lucy's and Percy's. The walls are 600 yards in compass. It was built soon after
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the conquest by William de Meschines. In this place are the remains of a vaulted cellar, and some walls of a chapel, well worth seeing. About two miles off are the ruins of Papcastle, possessed by the Romans. Here was found a large vessel of green stone, curiously engraved with the image of a priest dipping a child in the water, and a Danish inscription in Runick characters, signifying that Ekard, one of their great men, was baptized here, whose example the rest followed. It is still used as a font in the neighbouring church of Berwick.

RAVENGLASS, 284 miles from Lond. stands between the rivers Esk, Ert, and Mute, which surround three parts of the town, and the conflux of the Esk and Mute, which here falls into the sea, forms a good harbour for ships. Here is a good fishery, and a well-built town.

EGREMONT, 13 miles from Ravenglass, 299 from Lond. lies at a little distance from the sea, where it has a harbour for boats; it had formerly a castle, built by William de Meschines, soon after the conquest, but time has demolished it; and it has two bridges over the river Broadwater.

ST. BEES, a small but noted promontory, had formerly a priory, founded in the reign of Hen. I. by Randolph de Meschines Lord of Copeland; but now a parochial church. Here is a grammar school founded by Archb. Grindal, who was born here. It has a library belonging to it. The shore from hence to the S. W. draws in by little and little, and appears by the ruins to have been fortified by the Romans, in all places convenient for landing, for this was the utmost bound of the Roman empire.

WHITEHAVEN, 12 miles from Cockermouth, 302 from Lond. is so called from the white cliffs that are near it, and shelter the harbour from tempests; it is a populous rich town, chiefly obliged to Sir James Lowther for its improvement, who was at vast expence to make the harbour more commodious, and to beautify the town, the trade of which chiefly consists in salt and coal. It is so remarkable for the latter, that here are several officers of the customs, it being the most eminent port

port in England next to Newcastle for the coal trade; so that in time of war, or cross winds, it is common to see 200 sail of ships go off at once from hence to Dublin, by which means they continue to improve the harbour, repair the roads, and have built a new church. The coast of Whitehaven is very uncertain, by the shifting of the sands; and it does not appear that any surveys have been made of it, but what are very antient; and therefore not to be relied on; wherefore it is very common to take pilots either in the Isle of Man or at Whitehaven.

KESWICK, 14 miles from Cockermouth, 285 from Lond. stands on the side of a lake in a fruitful plain, encompassed with mountains, and protected from the N. winds by the Skiddaw. It was a place noted long ago for mines of black lead, and is inhabited by miners, who have water works by the Derwent for smelting the lead and sawing of boards. The stupendous rocks and cliffs of Keswick have been described by the pen of the late Dr. Brown, vicar of Newcastle, in a letter to Lord Lyttleton. "You have at Keswick," says this elegant writer, "a vast amphitheatre, in circumference above 20 miles, with a noble living lake 10 miles round, of an oblong form, adorned with a variety of wooded islands. On one side of the lake see a rich and beautiful landscape of cultivated fields, rising to the eye in fine inequalities, with noble groves of oak, happily dispersed, and climbing the adjacent hills, shade above shade, in the most various and picturesque forms. On the opposite shore, you will find rocks and cliffs of stupendous height, hanging broken over the lake in horrible grandeur, some of them a thousand feet high, the woods climbing up their steep and shaggy sides, where mortal foot never yet approached. On these dreadful heights the eagles build their nests: a variety of waterfalls are seen pouring from their summits, and tumbling in vast sheets from rock to rock in rude and terrible magnificence; while on all sides of this immense amphitheatre the lofty mountains rise round, piercing the clouds in shapes spiry and fantastic. To this I must add the frequent

frequent and bold projection of the cliffs into the lake, forming noble bays and promontories: in other parts they finely retire from it, and often open in abrupt chafms or clefts, through which at hand you see rich and cultivated vales; and beyond these, at various distance, mountain rising over mountain, among which, new prospects present themselves in mist, until the eye is lost in agreeable perplexity."

WORKINGTON, is noted for a fishery of salmon, which, like those of Carlisle, are carried from hence fresh as they take them to Lond.

PENRITH, 7 miles from Kirk Oswald, 280 from Lond. the name in British signifies a red hill, or head; the ground hereabout and the stone is of a reddish colour; it stands on a hill called Penrith Fell, not far from the conflux of the Eimot and Loder, at which is the round trench called K. Arthur's table. It has a large market-place, with a town-house of wood for its convenience, ornamented with bears climbing up ragged stiffs, the device of the Earl of Warwick. Here is a remarkable water course brought from Peatrill. In Penrith church-yard are two large pyramidical pillars about four yards in height and five distant from one another, which were set up in memory of Owen Cæsarius, who is fabled to have been of so enormous a stature, that his grave they say reached from one pillar to the other; the figures of bears in stone on each side of his grave are in remembrance of his feats on those animals. From an inscription on the outside of the vestry wall, it appears there was a plague here in 1598. It is a large, populous, well-built town, noted for tanners, and reckoned the second in the county for trade and wealth. There are several ruins in the neighbourhood, which from the inscriptions appear to have been Roman edifices; as also a grotto on the banks of the Eden, which had iron gates, and was thought to have been a place of retreat. It has a handsome spacious church, lately rebuilt, the roof of which is supported by a number of pillars, the shafts of whose columns are of one entire stone of a reddish colour, hewn out of a quarry at the entrance of the town.

PENRITH.

PENRITH-CASTLE has not been habitable for above a century past; it is now reduced to a wall, mouldering away daily, and full of weeds in the inside.

BRAMPTON, near the Picts wall, 8 miles to the N. E. of Carlisle. Here is a high hill called the Mote, ditched round at the top, from whence there is a fine prospect of the country round. There are several Roman monuments in this neighbourhood. Upon a rock called Helbeck by this town, is an imperfect inscription set up by an Ensign of the second Roman legion, called Augusta, under Agricola the Proprætor. A little to the N. E. near the Picts wall, is a medicinal spring that flows out of a rock, whose water is impregnated with sulphur, nitre and vitriol, and is said to be good for the spleen, the stone, and cutaneous distempers; it is much frequented in summer both by Scots and English.

LONGTOWN, 7 miles from Carlisle, stands near the conflux of the Esk and Kirkcub, on the Scots border.

BULNESS, stands on the promontory that runs into the Solway Firth, from which, as the utmost limits of the province of Britain, Antoninus began his Itinerary, and was antiently the head town of a large manor. It is now a small town with a fort. As a testimony of its antiquity, the tracts of streets and pieces of old walls, often appear in ploughing up the fields. This county being a kind of frontier to the Romans, we need not wonder that a great number of their antiquities are found in it; but the chief are the ruins of the famous Picts wall, built from Solway Firth through Carlisle, quite across the kingdom to Newcastle, about 80 miles in length, in order to restrain the northern people, who have always been very troublesome to those of the south. This famous wall begins at the distance of a mile to the N. which, from the foot of the bank of Stanwick, a little village (where the wall crosses the Eden, and so runs westward to Bulness) passed directly east through a pleasant cultivated level country, for 8 miles together; but in all this space the wall has been taken away for building the neighbouring houses, only the ridge of it is to be traced, together with the trench, all the way. This wall, for four or five miles

miles to the W. of Stanwick, was built on the same ground as Severus's mud wall; but at the distance from Irthington Moor it took a different rout, and the earth and stone kept a parallel course all the way.

ANTIQUITIES.

Here are more Roman antiquities than in any other county in England.

MORBIUM, which seems to have lost its name in the present Moresby, on the W. coast, where are considerable remains of Roman antiquity.

ARBEIA, may seem also to point out its old situation, by the name of the town Jerby, at the head of the river Elne.

VOLANTUM, by the great store of altars, statues and inscriptions found here, is supposed to be Elenburrow, at the mouth of the Elne.

CASTRA EXPLORAT ORUM, if we regard the distances on either hand, will fall in pretty well with the present Old Carlisle, at the head of the little river Wize, a place which, by reason of its high situation, is fit for the discovery of an enemy, and where is found such plenty of Roman antiquities, as declare it beyond all dispute to have been a considerable place under that people.

LUGUVALLUM, is by all agreed to be the present Carlisle, and seems to derive the latter syllables from its situation on the Picts wall.

PETRIANÆ, seems to be old Perith, where a broken altar was dug up, implying that the Ala Petriana quartered there.

CONGAVATA, is supposed to be the place we now call Rose Castle.

ASICA is thought to be Netherby, on the river Esk, as shewing vast ruins of an old city.

BREMONIUM, supposed to be Brampton in Gillesland.

A little after the conflux of the Eden and Eimot are two villages and forts, called Salkeld's. At Little Salkeld is a circle of stones, 77 in number, each 10 feet high, and before them at the entrance, is a single one by itself, 15 feet in height; this the common people call
Long

Long Meg, and the rest her daughters; and within the circle are two heaps of stones, under which it is said are buried dead bodies. It is thought to have been a monument erected in honour of some victory, or at the solemn investiture of some Danish King.

In Whitefield Park, near the border of Northumberland, there were, not many years since, the heads of a stag and a hound nailed upon a hawthorn tree. The hound chased the stag from this park to Red Kirk in Scotland, and back again, which cannot be less than 120 miles. The stag leaped the pale, and immediately dropped down dead on the inside: the hound attempted to leap the pale after him, but not clearing it fell down and died on the outside.

HOLM CULTRAM ABBEY, founded, according to Dugdale, by Henry II. A. D. 1150, now a parochial church.

CALDER ABBEY, founded in the year 1134, by Ranulph de Meschines, Earl of Chester.

LANERCOST PRIORY, founded by Robert de Vallibus, A. D. 1169. It is now a parish church.

WETHERALL PRIORY, founded in the first year of William Rufus, by Ranulph de Meschines, Lord of Cumberland.

SEATS.

The Duke of Norfolk's, Drumburg-castle, on the Solway Firth.

Earl of Carlisle's, at Naworth, 10 miles from Carlisle.

Earl of Suffex's, at Kirk-Oswald, 13 miles from Carlisle.

DACRES-CASTLE, four miles from Penrith, belonging to Edward Hasel, Esq;

HUTTON, Walter Fletcher's, Esq;

ROSE-CASTLE, belonging to the Bishops of Carlisle.

WESTMORELAND

IS an inland county, bounded by Lancashire on the S. and S. W. by Cumberland on the W. and N. W. by Yorkshire on the E. and N. E. It is 36 miles in length, and 34 in breadth; is divided into the barony of Westmoreland, which is an open, champaign country, 20 miles long and 14 broad; and the barony of Kendal, which is full of mountains. Both these are subdivided into two wards, each of which contains 32 parishes, wherein are many chapels of ease, 8 market towns, 220 villages, and only one parliamentary borough, namely Appleby, which is also the county town. In each of these divisions are several deaneries and constablewicks, but no hundreds, they antiently paying no subsidies, being sufficiently charged in the border service against the Scots. —The barony or bottom (so called from its low situation) which is the northern part, affords good store of corn. The barony of Kendal, or Candalia, which is the southern part, so called from the river Can, is pretty fruitful in the vallies, especially in the meadows near the rivers; and its mountains have good pasture for sheep, with copper ore in some parts. The air is sweet, healthful and pleasant, but sharp in the mountainous part. Beside pit coal, this county abounds with other fuel, there being plenty of wood upon the mountains in the barony of Kendal, and divers forests in the barony of Westmoreland. Among the mountains in the south part, on the borders of Cumberland, lies Winander-mere, the largest lake in England, so called by the Saxons from its winding banks. It is about 10 miles in length, paved at the bottom with one continued rock; and is of a vast depth in some parts. It is famed for the fish called Char, which is rarely found except among the Alps, and is reckoned a sort of golden alpine trout; it is potted, and sent as presents to London, and other parts.

APPLEBY, 267 miles from Lond. claims the first notice being the county town, where the assizes are yearly held, tho' it is neither rich nor beautiful; but the situation
of

of it in the midst of pleasant fields, and on the banks of the river Eden, which almost encompasses it, is very agreeable. Its name is a corruption of the Aballaba in the Notitia, and it was the station of the Mauri Aureliani, a band of Roman soldiers so called, because they were sent hither by the Emperor Aurelian. Here is the best corn market in all the northern parts; but the chief beauty of the town consists in one broad street, which runs with an easy ascent from S. to N. at the head whereof is the castle, the seat of the Earl of Thanet, almost surrounded with the river, and with trenches where the river comes not. Here also is an hospital for a governess and 12 other widows, called the mother and 12 sisters.

The town stands on the Roman military way, which crosses the country from Rear-cross on Stainmore, in the east, to the river Eden, a little below Penrith in the west.

KENDAL, 16 miles from Appleby, called also Kirkby Kandale, that is, a church by the dale upon the river Can, over which it has two bridges of stone and one of wood, and a harbour for boats; it is much superior to Appleby in trade, buildings, number and wealth of the inhabitants, and is the largest town in the county. It has two good streets which cross each other, and is enriched by the woollen manufacture. Here are seven trading companies, viz. mercers, sheermen, cordwainers, tanners, glovers, taylors and pewterers, who have each their hall. The church is very large and beautiful, supported by five rows of pillars.

KIRKBY LONSDALE, the chief town of LONSDALE, so called from kirk, or church, by the dale of the river Lone. It is a large town, has a woollen manufacture, and a fair church, with a stone bridge over the Lone.

KIRKBY STEPHEN, on the river Eden; noted for weaving yarn stockings.

AMBLESIDE, 271 miles from London, is another town noted for a manufacture of cloth, and its market is well stored with provisions.

BROUGH, 8 miles from Appleby, 258 from Lond. stands on a rivulet about 2 miles from the river Eden, and is divided

vided into two towns, viz. Church Brough, where the church stands, with a castle and small fort called *Cæsar's Tower*, the former of which, being demolished by fire, was rebuilt in 1661, by the Countess of Pembroke. Near the bridge a spaw-well has been discovered. The other part is called Lower Brough, from its situation; and Market Brough from its market, which is pretty considerable.

MILTHROP, five miles from Kendal, at the mouth of the Can, is the only sea-port town in the county, commodities being brought hither in vessels from Grange, in Lancashire.

SHAP, once called Chepe and Hepe, is a market town 7 miles south of Penrith; it has a moot-house, the upper part of which is a room for public business.

The antient places of note in this country are,

AMBOGLANA, which, from the analogy of names, can be placed no where more commodiously than at Ambleside, upon Winander Mere; and the rather, as it shews the ruins of an old city, with other marks of antiquity; several medals of gold, silver and copper have been found here.

VERTERÆ, must be Brough under Stanemore, from its situation on a Roman highway, and the exact agreement of the distances from *Levatræ* and *Brovonacum*.

GALLATUM, is supposed to be Whelp-castle, near Kirkbyshore, where are the ruins of an old town, and considerable remains of antiquity.

SETANTIURUM LACUS is thought to be Winander Mere.

At **KIRKBY-THORE**, begins the old military causeway, called the Maiden Way, which runs 20 miles from hence to *Caervorren*, near the *Picts* wall.

What the country people call King Arthur's Round Table, is a little to the S. of the conflux of the *Löwder* and *Eimot*. On the inside of it is a trench, by which some think it was a place of juffs and tournaments; but others, that it was only a cockpit, or ring to wrestle in. Near

Near it is a kind of fortification, being a pile of stones heaped up in the form of a horse-shoe, called Mayburgh.

SEATS.

Earl of Thanet's, Pendragon-castle, 12 miles from Appleby.

Earl of Derby's, Beltham-castle, 7 miles from Kendal.

Sir James Lowther's, Lowther-hall, near Ulleswater.

Sir Philip Musgrove's, Hartley-castle, near Kirkby Stephen.

LANCASHIRE

IS pent up in narrow bounds, between Yorkshire on the E. and the Irish Sea on the W. on the S. side towards Cheshire it is broader, but gradually grows narrower towards the N. where it borders on Westmoreland, and there it is divided by an arm of the sea, so as a considerable part lies beyond the bay, and joins to Cumberland. This maritime county is 68 miles in length from N. to S. and 40 in breadth from E. to W. It contains 27 market towns, 60 parishes (some of which are very large) beside chapels as big as parish churches, and 894 villages. It enjoys a serener air than any other maritime county, being the least subject to fogs; so that the people are generally strong and healthy, except near the fens and sea shore, and on certain moist and unwholesome spots of ground called mosses; but they yield turf for fuel, and marl for cultivating the land. The soil where plain and level yields store of wheat and barley; and though the hilly parts on the east side are generally stony and barren, yet the bottoms of these hills produce excellent oats. The pasture renders the cattle of a greater size than those of any other county, and their horns wider and larger. Here is plenty of timber, coal and canel coal, which not only makes a much clearer fire than pit coal, but is capable of a polish like marble, and will not soil a handkerchief, though as black as jet; with mines of lead, iron
and

and copper, and quarries of stone, &c. It sends two Knights for the shire to parliament, and two for each of the boroughs of Lancaster, Preston, Newton, Wigan, Clithero, and Liverpool.

LANCASTER, the shire town, 235 miles from Lond. has its name from the river Lune, on the side of which it is situated near its mouth, and gives name to the whole county; it is the antient Longovicum mentioned in the Itinerary. Here are frequently found the coins of Roman Emperors, especially where the Benedictine Friars had a cloyster, which they say was the area of an antient city burnt to the ground in 1322 by the Scots. After this conflagration they built nearer the river, by a green hill, upon which stands a castle, and on the top of it a handsome church; at the bottom there is a fine bridge over the Lune, and on the steepest part of it hangs a piece of very ancient Roman-wall, now called Wery-wall. In digging a cellar several cups were found that had been used in sacrifices. It was formerly more remarkable for agriculture than commerce; but is much improved in the latter, being at present a populous, thriving corporation, with a tolerable harbour and custom-house. The county assizes are held in the castle, which is one of the fairest monuments of antiquity in this kingdom. The ditch was made by the Emperor Adrian, and the garri-son, which he placed there, erected for their better security a tower towards the W. Constantius Chlorus, father of Constantine the Great, built another tower facing the town; both which are now standing. That beautiful tower, now called the Gatehouse, was erected by John Earl of Morton and Lancaster.

PRESTON, 18 miles from Lancaster, 214 miles from Lond. is said to have risen out of the ruins of Ribbleshester. It is a beautiful place, and has a large stone bridge over the Ribble, a river which supplies it with fish, coal, and other commodities. This place, for its situation, delightful eminence, handsome streets, and variety of company that resort to it, is reckoned one of the prettiest retirements in Engl. Its Saturday market is as considerable as any, N. of Trent, for corn, fish, fowl,
N &c.

&c. There are traces of a Roman military way over the neighbouring common, from Rilcheſter to the mouth of the Ribble.

NEWTON, 5 miles from Wigan, 189 from Lond. ſtands almoſt in the center betwixt Wigan and Warrington, is chiefly noted for a charity ſchool founded in 1707, and endowed with 2000l. by Mr. Hornby. The rectory of Winwick, to which Newton is only a chapel, is eſteemed worth 800l. per annum.

WIGAN, or WIGGIN, 196 miles from Lond. ſtands pleaſantly near the riſe of a rivulet, called Dugleſs, and is a well built town, in the high poſt road to Lancaſter. It is famous for the manufacture of coverlets, rugs, blankets, and other ſorts of bedding; and for its pit coal and iron work. It has a ſtately church, one of the beſt endowed in the county, and the rector is always Lord of the Manor.

At ANCLIFFE, about two miles from Wigan, there is a curious phenomenon, called the burning-Well, the water of which is cold, and has no ſmell; yet ſo ſtrong a vapour of ſulphur iſſues out of it, that upon applying fire to it, the water is covered with a flame like that of burning ſpirits, which laſts ſeveral hours, and emits ſo fierce a heat, that meat may be boiled by it. But this water being taken out of the well, will not emit vapour in a quantity ſufficient to catch fire.

LEVERPOOLE, 14 miles from Wigan, 203 from Lond. no very antient town, but neat and populous; and the moſt flouriſhing ſea port in theſe parts, nearly equal to the city of Briſtol. The cuſtoms are increaſed 8 or 10 fold within theſe 50 years. The inhabitants are very numerous, and drive an incredible trade with very large ſtocks to all the northern and ſouthern parts of the world. They import almoſt all kinds of foreign goods, have a large inland trade, and ſhare in that to Ireland and Wales, with Briſtol. It is alſo the moſt convenient and moſt frequented paſſage to Ireland, ſtanding at the mouth of the Merſey river, or Leverpoole-water, as the ſailors call it. The harbour is defended on the S. ſide by a caſtle, and on the W. by a tower, on the Merſey, a ſtately ſtrong

strong piece of building, but the town is quite open. It has four handsome churches, one of which is but lately built. All the new buildings are very handsome, in large spacious clean streets; the houses being of brick, and as much like those of Lond. as possible, only not quite so high. They have a fine town-house, standing upon 12 free stone pillars and arches, and under it is their exchange. The wet dock with its iron flood-gates, at the E. end of the town, is the only thing of its kind in Britain, and is a most noble work, fully answering the end, in all the essential parts of the marine business. The custom-house is a commodious elegant structure. Rock salt is dug out of the earth both in this county and Cheshire, and shipped off in great quantities, for Devonshire, Bristol, Lond. and other parts of Great-Britain, where it is dissolved in sea water, and boiled into a stronger and finer sea salt, of which the Dutch make the St. Ube's salt, and cure their herrings with it. The play-house is very neat. A company of London performers exhibit here, during the summer season, and every thing is carried on with great propriety. Behind the boxes a table is spread in the manner of a coffee house, to accommodate the company with various refreshments.

The Mersey abounds with salmon, codfish, flounders, turbot, plaice and smelts, and at full sea it is more than two miles over. There is a ferry here, and when people land on this side, they are carried through the water for a little way on the backs of men, who wade knee deep in the mud to take them out of the boats.

WARRINGTON, 183 miles from London, populous and rich, has a fine stone bridge over the river Mersey, that leads into Cheshire, and is a large, neat, old built, town, with a considerable market, for linen and malt. As it lies on the great road to Carlisle and Scotland, it has always been judged a pass of the utmost importance in a time of war; and therefore the English forces took care to secure it during the rebellion in 1745.

MANCHESTER, 68 miles from York, 182 from Lond. stands near the conflux of the Irk with the Irwell; and is so much improved, that though it is neither incorporat-

ed, nor has the privilege of sending members to parliament, yet, as an inland town, it has the best trade of any in these northern parts, and surpasses all the towns thereabout in buildings, number of inhabitants, manufactures, a spacious market-place and college. The fustian manufacture, called Manchester cottons, for which it has been famous for almost 150 years, has been much improved of late, by some inventions of dying and printing; the greatest variety of other stuffs, known by the name of Manchester goods, as ticking, tapes, filleting and linen cloth, not only enrich the town, but render the people industrious. The collegiate church is very large and beautiful, with a choir remarkable for its curious carved work, and a famous clock that shews the age of the moon. As the Hague in Holland is deservedly called the most magnificent village in Europe, so Manchester may, with equal propriety, be said to be the greatest village in England, the highest magistrate being only a Constable or Headborough, though it is more populous than York, or many other cities in Engl. The people, including those in the suburbs on the other side of the river, are not less than 50,000. Here is a spacious market-place, and a modern exchange. In the space of about three miles above the town it has no less than 60 mills. The weavers have looms here by which they work 23 laces at once; an invention for which they are obliged to the Dutch.

ROCHEDALE, 12 miles from Manchester, 195 from Lond. is another town of good trade, and stands in a valley on the river Roch, under the hills, called Blackstone Edge; which are sometimes covered with snow in August.

This place is famous for manufactories of cloth, kerseys and shalloon. Every considerable house is a manufactory, and is supplied with a rivulet or little stream, without which the business cannot be carried on. The water, tinged with the dregs of the dying vat, with the oil, soap, tallow, or other ingredients used by the clothiers, enriches the land through which it passes beyond imagination. The bounty of nature with respect to this country, in the two essential articles of
coals

coals and springs of running water, from the tops of the highest hills is not to be equalled in any part of England. The place seems to have been designed by providence for the very purpose to which it is allotted; viz. the carrying on a manufacture, which can no where be so well supplied with the conveniences necessary to it. The women and children are all employed here, not a beggar or idle person being to be seen.

BURY, 9 miles from Manchester, is a town also of good trade, on the Irwell; it is employed in the fustian manufacture, and in coarse goods, called half-thicks and kerseys, for which there is a great market, though the town lies out of the way, at the foot of the mountains.

BOLTON, 4 miles from Bury, is a staple for fustians of divers sorts, especially those called Augsburg and Milan fustians, which are brought to its markets and fairs from all parts of the county: Here are also medicinal waters. The old Earl of Derby was beheaded here for proclaiming King Charles the Second.

KIRKHAM, 6 miles from the Irish sea, 10 from Preston, stands near the Ribble, and has a free school with three masters, well endowed by Mr. Colborn, citizen of London. It is situate in that part of the county called Field-land, between the Ribble and a little river some miles S. of Lancaster. In many places on this coast the inhabitants gather great quantities of sand, which having lain some time, they put into troughs with holes in them pour water on it, and boil the lees into a white salt.

ORMSKIRK, 10 miles from Leverpoole, is a handsome town with a good inland trade, but is of most note for a bituminous earth, from which an oil resembling that of amber is extracted, that serves the country people instead of candles; and in the adjacent country there is a mineral spring, called Maudlin-well, handsomely walled in and covered; the waters of which have performed notable cures. It is impregnated with sulphur, vitriol, oker, and a marine salt, united with a bitter purging salt. It used to throw up marine shells in great quantities, notwithstanding it is situated far from the sea or any salt ri-

vers,

vers, till they found a way to keep them down together with the sand, by laying mill-stones upon the spring.

HAWKSHEAD, 30 miles from Lancaster, 273 from Lond. has a good trade in cloth, in that part of the county which lies towards Cumberland and Westmoreland; it stands on the river Foss. Between this place and the river Dudden is the promontory, properly called Fourness, which has the isle of Walney lying along by it, and a small arm of the sea between. The entrance to it is defended by a fort called the Pile of Fouldery, situated upon a rock in the middle of the water.

CARTMEL, 260 miles from Lond. lies among the hills called Chartmel-Fells, and has a harbour for boats, where the river Ken falls into the ocean. Here is an elegant church built in the form of a cathedral, once a priory of canons regular.

At **WRAYSHOLM** tower in this neighbourhood, a medicinal spring was lately discovered, which is much frequented in summer for the cure of the stone, gout, worms, itch, &c.

POULTEN lies near the river Skippon, and the mouth of the river Wire, which advances its trade, and it is noted for good pearl-fishing.

The antient places of most note in this county are,

MANCUNIUM, (Manchester) which seems to have taken part of its name from the Roman one; and what is now called Knock-castle, where many antiquities have been found, was the scite of the Roman-Castrum: the foundation of the castle wall and ditch still remain in what is called Castlefield.

RIBODUNUM, (Ptolemy's Rigodunum) is no other place than Ribchester, which produces a variety of Roman remains; and, as inconsiderable as it is now, gave rise to Preston. A great many Roman coins have been found at Coln and Burnley, both small market towns.

BREMETONACUM is **OVERBURROW**, where the Lac falls into the Lon; it carries antiquity in the latter part of its present name, and has the tradition of the inhabitants, who tell of a spacious city that was formerly there,

there, and has the evidence of Roman coins and inscriptions, to justify its antiquity.

HOLLAND-PRIORY, originally a college for canons secular, but in 1319, was converted into a priory of Benedictines, is now a parochial church.

CLITHERO-CASTLE, built about the year 1178, which stands at the foot of Pendle-hill. Gleaston-castle, erected about 1340, to prevent the inroads of the Scots.

SEATS.

The Duke of Hamilton's, at Ashton-hall.

Lord Willoughby of Parham, Shaw-place, and Worsley.

HAIGH, Sir Roger Bradshaigh's, Bart.

Lord Viscount Molineux's, Croxteth-hall.

Mr. Cheetham's, at Turton-chapel.

HULME, the seat of the Blands, Lords of the town of Manchester.

KIRKBY-CROSS-HOUSE, the seat of the Kirkbys, who have been owners of it since the conquest.

BIGLAND, the seat of John Bigland, Esq;

KNOWESLY, Earl of Derby's, near Leverpoole.

CHESHIRE

IS divided from Lancashire on the N. by the river Mersey, has a corner of Yorkshire on the N. E. Derbyshire and Staffordshire on the E. and S. E. Shropshire and part of Flintshire on the S. and Denbighshire, the W. of Flintshire, and the Irish Sea on the N. W. corner, where a Chersonese, 16 miles long and seven broad, is formed by two creeks of it, which receive all the rivers of the county. It is 54 miles in length, and 25 where broadest. It contains one city, namely Chester, 12 market towns, 610 villages, in which are 86 parish churches and 38 chapels. The air of this county is more serene and mild than that of Lancashire, and the soil mostly good. The low level ground so abounds in

grass and corn, that K. Edw. I. stiled it the Vale Royal of England. On the borders of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, it is full of small risings. In this shire is a peculiar sort of ground, called mosses, a kind of moorish, boggy earth, very stringy and fat, out of which are cut turfs in form of bricks, and dried in the sun. In these mosses, especially the black sort, are found fir-trees sometimes 6 feet or more under ground, which serve the country people for candles, fuel, and for small timber uses. The product of this county is more particularly cheese and salt. Its cheese is commended as the best in England; the Cheddar cheese of Somersetshire only excepted. This county affords a great store of all sorts of provisions, corn, flesh, fish, and the best of salmon; and it drives a considerable trade, having within itself salt-pits, mines and metals. It was erected into a county palatine by William the Conqueror.

CHESTER, or, as it is commonly called, WEST CHESTER, 183 miles from Lond. is a large well built city, full of wealthy inhabitants, who by its neighbourhood to the Severn and to Ireland drive a considerable trade; as may be seen by the great fairs held here every year; to which abundance of tradesmen and merchants come from all parts, but particularly from Bristol and Dublin. That it was eminent in the Roman times is unquestionable, from the numerous spoils of their grandeur found here, as vaults, vast foundations, coins, altars, pavements of chequer work, and the like. The houses are, generally speaking, distinguished from all the buildings in Britain; they are for the most part of timber, very large and spacious, but are built with galleries, piazzas, or covered walks before them, in which the people who walk are so hid, that to look up or down the streets one sees no body stirring, except with horses, carts, &c. and yet they may be said to be full of people. By the same means also the shops are, as it were, hid, little or no part of them being to be seen, unless one is under those rows, or just opposite to a house. "It is a city," says a late writer, * "without parallel for the sin-

* Pennant's Tour, 1769.

gular structure of the four principal streets, which are as if excavated out of the earth, and sunk many feet below the surface, the carriages drive far beneath the level of the kitchens, on a line with ranges of shops, over which, on each side of the streets, passengers walk from end to end, in covered galleries, secure from wet or heat. The back courts of all these houses are level with the ground, but to go into any of these four streets, it is necessary to descend a flight of steps." This was formerly reckoned the glory and beauty of Chester, but now its disgrace and deformity; for to obtain this convenience of walking dry from one end of the street to the other when it rains, the houses are lessened, whose fronts would otherwise come out into the streets as far as those galleries; also the shops are dark and close, and many ways incommodious; yet with all this inconvenience and disadvantage it is a very handsome city; and in those streets where the rows do not cloud the buildings, there are very large and well built houses. The streets are generally straight, and very broad, and crossing each other in right lines, meet in the center. On the S. side of the town, and on a rising ground surrounded in part by its river, is a strong stately castle, to which the walls on that side join, and from thence it is a most agreeable walk round the whole city upon the walls, intercepted only by some of the towers over the gates. It is kept in good repair, and has always a strong garrison; being of great importance when any military preparations are making for Ireland, or any disturbance raised on that side the country, it being a good place for magazines. The Exchange is a neat building supported by columns 13 feet high, of one stone each. From the city walls there is a prospect of Flintshire, and the mountains of Wales. Here is a noble bridge with a gate at each end, and about a dozen arches over the Dee, which here falls into the sea; it is the largest and longest river on the W. side of Britain, between the Severn and Clyde, but a strange river both for the force of its current, and the quantity of its waters in the winter season, and upon hasty rains or snows; for then the mountains of Wales,

from whence they come, pour down such floods, that the height of the waters is sometimes frightful; and not many years ago, such an inundation happened, as drowned and drove away their new built key, the warehouses newly erected there, and all the goods that were in them, to the incredible loss of the merchants, &c. Here are 11 parish churches. The great church is a stately venerable pile, and looks as antique as the castle. In this church they pretend to show the monument of Henry IV. Emperor of Germany. "Here is a charity school absolutely appropriated to the education of jockies. The truth of the matter is, that the charity school, which is without the north gate, is well endowed, having a large fund, intended by the donor to be laid out in qualifying the children for trade. Some years ago it was usual to bind them out to the tradesmen and artificers of Chester; and consequently when out of their time they were admitted freemen, and had a right to vote in the election of members to represent the town in parliament; but it having often happened, that many of them were too obstinate to receive directions in that material point, the practice has been discontinued, and they are now put out to horse-hirers and jockies, not free of the city." The port, which is formed by Hyle Lake and the Point of Aire is but indifferent, the bar often almost choaked up, and at best very difficult, the ships being forced to unload their goods at 6 miles distance, and to send them up to the city in small vessels; otherwise Chester, which is much better situate for trade than Liverpoole, must have surpassed it long ago: but by the assistance of two acts of parliament, the inhabitants have in some measure surmounted this difficulty, by having a channel cut 10 miles in length, through which large vessels can now come up to the city. The continual resort hither of passengers to and from Ireland, adds not a little to its trade.

The adjacent country is the richest in pasturage of any on the W. side of Britain, as is plain from its pro-

duce of cheefe; of this it is said London takes off 14000 tons a year; that the navigation of the Trent and Severn carries off 8000, and the kingdoms of Scotland and Ireland 4000; besides what goes away by land carriage, and is consumed in Wales, and in the several inland counties: so that the whole produce is computed to be at least 30,000 tons.

The episcopal see was first translated to this city from Litchfield, then to Coventry, and from thence to the antient see again.

MALPAS, 9 miles from Nantwich, 166 from Lond. on a high hill not far from the river Dee, on the borders of Shropshire, has a church in the most eminent part of the town, a grammar school, an hospital, and a good market place; and had formerly a castle, now in ruins. The town consists of 3 streets, now well paved, though it was called *Mala Platea* in Latin, the bad street, and for the same reason was called by the Normans Mal-Pas.

CHOLMONDLEY, 3 miles from Malpas, stands on the river Weaver, near the place where it receives the Comber. It appears by deeds, in Lord Cholmondley's possession, that this place has been spelt 25 different ways.

TORPORLEY, 6 miles from Cholmondley, is a town, church, and parsonage, well known for their situation, being a great thoroughfare on the Chester road, and the usual place for keeping hundred-courts, &c.

NANTWICH, 14 miles from Chester, 162 from Lond. in the Vale Royal, gives name to the hundred, and is the greatest and best built town in the county; being destroyed by fire in 1583, it was raised out of the ashes with more beauty than before, and continues so to this time. The streets are very regular, and adorned with many gentlemen's houses. The church is a large beautiful structure, like a cathedral, with the steeple in the middle. "Here we are shewn the monument of the founder, Sir Roger de Corradoc, an antient British Knight, who was said to be immediately descended from the renowned Caractacus. It is of white marble, but much defaced by Cromwell's soldiers, from whose violence nothing venerable was sacred. They were pos-

felled of this town for more than a year, during which time they turned the church into a stable for their horses. There is a charge of five shillings put down in the church book for pitch, to purify the place on their departure." The inhabitants carry on a considerable trade, by means of its large weekly market, and of its cheese and salt, which are made to greater perfection here than any where else. The soil in and about this town yields such sweet food for cattle, that though good cheese is made in other parts of this county, yet that made here and hereabouts excels all the rest, as having a taste peculiarly agreeable.

The salt springs in some places are not above three or four feet deep, but the pit in this township is full seven; in two parts of it the springs break out so in the meadows, as to fret away not only the grass, but part of the earth, which has a salt liquor oozing as it were out of the mud. The springs are about 30 miles from the sea, and generally lie all along the river Weaver; yet there is an appearance of the same vein at Middlewick, nearer the river Dan than the Weaver. The water is so very cold at the bottom of the pit, that when the briners sometimes go about to cleanse it, they cannot stay in it above half an hour, and in that time they are forced to drink strong waters. The pit yields about one pound of salt for six pounds of brine, and is so plentiful a spring, that whereas they seldom make salt in above 6 houses at a time, and there are, or should be, above 50 wick houses in the town, this pit is judged sufficient to supply them all. The quick use of the pit adds extremely to the strength of the brine, for frequent drawing makes way for the salt springs to come quicker, and allows the less time for the admission of fresh springs. It is observed by the briners, that they make more salt with the same quantity of brine in dry than in wet weather; and use for their fuel Staffordshire pit coal. There are various conjectures concerning the antiquity of these works; however, the manner of managing the salt has altered very much within 60 or 70 years. The grey salt is only the sweepings made of the worst sort; the loaves of fine white salt for table use are put into an oven, where

where household bread has been just drawn, till they are baked firm.

NORTHWICH, 173 miles from Lond. stands also on the Weaver; the name in British is *Hellathddu*, i. e. the Black Salt Pit, where is a deep and plentiful brine pit near the brink of the river Dan, with stairs about it, by which, when they have drawn the water in leather buckets, they ascend to the troughs and fill them, from whence it is conveyed to the wich houses. The salt, agreeable to the Welch name, is not so white as at the other wiches, nor made with so much ease. This is a very handsome town, and lies so near the middle of the county, that it is often appointed for the meeting of the Justices and other gentlemen on public affairs. On the S. side of this town, within these fifty years, have also been discovered many mines of rock salt, which they continue frequently to dig up and send in great lumps to the sea ports, where it is dissolved and made into eating-salt. When a person is let down into one of these salt quarries, to the depth of about 150 feet, it looks like a subterranean cathedral supported by rows of pillars, all of the same rock, transparent and glittering from the numerous candles burnt there to light the workmen, who dig it away. This rock work extends several acres.

MIDDLEWICH, 4 miles from Northwich, 167 from Lond. stands near the union of the Croke and Dan, where are two salt springs, which they call sheaths, and great quantities of salt are made here. The rich brine of the chief pit yields, it is said, one fourth of salt, yet is so thrifty of its brine, that the inhabitants are limited to their proportions out of it, and their quantity is made up from pits that afford a weaker brine. This is an ancient borough, and a very large parish, extending into many townships, and has a spacious fair church. The town consists of several streets and lanes, that are well peopled.

SANDBACH, 5 miles from Congleton, 162 from Lond. is delightfully situated on the river Wheelock, which comes with three streams from Mowcop-hill; in the market-place are two small stone crosses on steps, with certain

certain images, and the history of Christ's passion engraved on them. The ale here is much admired, and said to be equal to that at Derby.

CONGLETON, 7 miles from Macclesfield, 163 from Lond. near the borders of Staffordshire, is an antient but handsome town, which in old writings is called a borough; it is watered on all sides by the river Dan, the brook Howtey, and the Daning Schew; it is noted for a good trade in leather gloves, purses and points, and has two churches.

MACCLESFIELD, 8 miles from Knottessford, 168 from Lond. gives name to its hundred, and to a spacious forest on the edge of Derbyshire, which is watered by the Bollin, on which the town stands; it is an antient large town, and one of the finest in this county. The church is a handsome edifice, with a high spire steeple, and a college adjoining to it, in which was an oratory, where are two brass plates, on one of which there is a promise of 26,000 years and 26 days pardon, for saying five Paternosters and five Ave-marias. The chief manufacture of this town is buttons, and it has a free school of an antient foundation.

KNOTTESFORD, 8 miles from Stockport, 173 from Lond. is a double town, called Upper and Lower, parted by a rivulet called Bicken, and finely situated: there is a market and town-house, where the Justices often keep the sessions; and a church, which is only a chapel under Rostherne.

ALTRINCHAM, 186 miles from Lond. is a town of note enough to be governed by a mayor, but has nothing more remarkable.

FRODESHAM, 7 miles from Chester, a good port town, consisting of one long street, with a castle at the W. end; it stands upon the river Weaver, over which it has a stone bridge, and a harbour for ships. Here is a noble remain of antiquity called Frudsham-castle; but the person who erected it is not known.

HALTON, near Frodesham, stands on a hill. Here was antiently a castle and some other stately edifices, which time has greatly defaced. The remains of the castle,

castle, which was built by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, sufficiently shew that it was once a grand edifice.

The antiquities in this county are not many, beside Deva, which is agreed on all hands to be the city of Chester; Bonium seems to have something left in its name of the antient Banchor, on the river Dee, a monastery of great note among our ancestors; and this conjecture is confirmed by the distances and other circumstances. The Congi, a people of the Britons, were settled in these parts upon the authority of an old inscription dug up near this coast. Condatum seems to be Congleton from the sound, but from the distances and course of the Itinerary, is rather thought to be Persbrigg in the Bishoprick of Durham, from an inscription dug up there.

CAMBERMOKE-ABBEY, founded in 1134, by Hugh Malbane.

A religious ruin near Chester, on the river Mersey.

NORTON-PRIORY, founded by Runcorn, in the year 1133.

BIRKENHEAD-PRIORY.

SEATS.

The Earl of Cholmondley's, 7 miles from Nantwich.

DUNHAM-MASSEY, Lord Delamere's.

Earl of Barrymore's, Rock-Savage, near Frodesham.

Earl of Dysart's, at Wood-hay, near Nantwich; and at Dutton, 13 miles from Chester.

Lord Grosvenor's, at Eaton, near Chester.

Sir Lynch Salusbury Cotton's, Bart. at Cumbermere, on the borders of Shropshire.

Sir Thomas Aston's, Aston-hall, near Bucklow.

Sir William Bunbury's, at Stacey.

Sir Peter Warburton's, at Arley.

Mr. Egerton's, at Oulton, near the forest of Delamere.

Charles Cholmondeley's, Esq; at Vale Royal.

John Crew's, Esq; Crew-hall.

Peter Leigh's, Esq; at Lime.

Sir Henry Mainwaring's, at Baddiley.

Thomas

Thomas Brereton's, Esq; at Sough-hall, near Chester.
 Sir George Warren's, Pointon-hall, near Stockport.
 Sir Roger Mostyn's, Cathrifleton.
 Lord Vernon's, at Kinderton-park.
 Mr. Swettenham's, Swettenham-hall, and the late
 John Lawton's, Esq; Lawton-hall.

STAFFORDSHIRE

IS bounded on the E. by Warwickshire and Derbyshire; on the S. by Worcestershire; on the W. by Shropshire and Cheshire; which last joining to Derbyshire on the N. where it ends in an obtuse angle, makes the N. border. It is divided by the Trent into the N. E. and S. W. parts; the former of which is subdivided into the Moorlands, which are the more northerly mountainous part, and the Woodland, which is the more southerly part of the county. Staffordshire lies from S. to N. almost in form of a rhombus, being about 47 miles in length, and 32 in breadth. It contains one city, namely, Litchfield, 18 market towns, 670 villages, 150 parishes. Being mostly hilly, the air is generally good. The Moorlands, which are mountainous, and therefore reckoned the most barren, produce a short but sweet grass, with which they breed as fine large cattle as those of Lancashire. Sheep are also fed in the northern as well as the southern parts in great numbers; much of the wool produced from them is manufactured in the cloathing trade. Even the barren Moorlands, when manured with marle and lime, mixed with turf ashes, produce good oats and barley; and as to the southern parts and some adjacent parishes in the N. they produce all kinds of grain. In these parts they also sow hemp and flax. Both the Moorlands and Woodlands yield lead, copper, iron, marble, alabaster, mill-stones, coal, marles of several sorts and colours, other useful earths, and likewise valuable stones and minerals of various sorts. It sends to parliament two Knights of the Shire;

Shire, two Burgeſſes for Litchfield, two for Stafford, and two for Newcastle-Under-Line.

LITCHFIELD, 118 miles from Lond. is a large neat town, which, with Coventry, is a Biſhoprick; it ſtands low, near 3 miles from the Trent, and is divided into two parts by a little clear rivulet, over which are two cauſeways with ſluices. The Biſhop's ſee was erected, as it is ſaid, in 606, by Ofwy, King of Northumberland. That part of the city which ſtands on the S. ſide of the rivulet is called the city, and the other the cloſe. In the ſouth ſide is a goal for felons, a free ſchool, and a large well-endowed hoſpital for the relief of the poor. The cloſe is ſo called, becauſe it is incloſed with a wall, and a deep dry trench on all ſides, except toward the city, where it is defended by a great lake or marſh formed by the abovementioned brook. The cathedral, which ſtands in this cloſe, was begun in 1148; it ſuffered much in the time of the civil wars, but was thoroughly repaired after the reſtoration of Charles II. and is now a noble and admirable ſtructure: it is walled in like a caſtle, but ſtands on ſuch an eminence that it is ſeen 10 miles round. Its portico or front can ſcarcely be paralleled in England. There are 26 ſtatues of the kings of Judah in a row above it, as big as the life; and on the top, at each corner of the portico, is a ſtately ſpire, beſide a fine high ſteeple on the middle of the church. There are ſeveral ſtatues on the outſide of it as well as within. The choir, which is in great part paved with alabaſter and cannel coal, in imitation of black and white marble, has a chapel behind it. The prebendaries ſtalls are likewise of excellent workmanſhip. Here are three other churches, of which St. Michael's has ſo large a church yard, as to contain ſix or ſeven acres of ground. Litchfield is a long ſtraggling place, though it has very handſome houſes in it; and as it is a thoroughfare to the N. W. counties, has ſeveral good inns. The ale is reckoned incomparable here, as it is all over the county. The country hereabouts is both pleaſant and fruitful. The brook, which has two bridges over it, runs into the

the Trent. The streets are well paved, and kept very clean.

STAFFORD, 132 miles from Lond. is the shire town where the assizes are held. It stands low on the river Sow, over which it has a good bridge. Here are two handsome churches, a free school, and a spacious market-place, in which stands the shire hall: It is well built and paved, and much increased of late both in wealth and inhabitants by its manufacture of cloth. The old custom of Borough English* is still kept up here. The buildings are for the most part of stone and slate, and some of them in the modern taste. Not only the assizes, but the quarter sessions are kept in this town.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LINE, or LOME, 14 miles from Stafford, 149 from Lond. It has three great fairs for all sorts of cattle, and a fourth for wool. The chief manufacture is hats. The streets are broad and well paved, but most of the buildings low and thatched. The cloathing trade flourishes here, and the town is surrounded with coal pits. It has only one church.

WOOLVERHAMPTON, 124 miles from Lond. stands upon a high ground, and is a populous, well-built town, and the streets well paved; but all the water the town is supplied with, except what falls from the skies, comes from four weak springs of different qualities, which go by the name of Pudding-well, Horse-well, Washing-well, and Meal-well. From the last they fetch all the water they use for boiling or brewing, in leather budgets laid across a horse with a funnel at the top, by which they fill them; and to the other wells they carry their tripe, horses and linen. To the high and dry situation of the place, is ascribed its healthy state, notwithstanding

* Borough English is a customary descent of lands to some antient boroughs to the youngest son; or if the owner hath no issue, to his youngest brother. The original of this old custom is attributed to the Lords of certain lands having the privilege of taking their tenant's wives the first night after marriage; wherefore, in time, the tenants obtained this custom, on purpose that their eldest sons (who might be the Lord's bailards) should be incapable to inherit their estates. But the reason of the custom (Littleton says) is, because the youngest is presumed in law to be least able to provide for himself.

ing the adjacent coal-pits; and it is said the plague was never known there.

The chief manufacturers of this town are locksmiths, who are reckoned the most expert of any in England. They are so curious in this art, that they can contrive a lock so, that it will shew how often, at any distance of time, the lock has been shot for a whole year; some of them being made to discover 500 or 1000 times.— A lock with a curious set of chimes in it, that sold for 20l. was made in this town. Here is a collegiate church, which is annexed to the Dean and Chapter of Windsor.

WALSAL, 5 miles from Litchfield, on the top of a hill, has a good market, and having several iron mines near it, the inhabitants make spurs, bridle bits, buckles, &c. in which they carry on a considerable trade. Here is dug the best sort of iron ore, which the miners call *mush*; it contains a cold sharp liquor so pleasant to the taste, that the workmen are fond of it.

PENKRIDGE, 4 miles from Wolverhampton, is noted for its horse fair, which is reckoned the greatest in England, especially for saddle nags, which are brought hither from Yorkshire, and all the horse-breeding counties.

RUGELEY, 7 miles from Litchfield, 126 from Lond. is a handsome well built town, situate near the river Trent, in the Lancashire and Cheshire road from Lond. and on one side of Cankwood-chace.

BURTON, 125 miles from Lond. on the N. side of the Trent, is chiefly noted for its fine ale. It once had an abbey, a castle, &c. but the bridge some think the finest piece of workmanship of any civil public building in England. It is all of squared free stone, and above a quarter of a mile in length, with 37 arches, where the river divides into three channels. The parish church is adjoining to the decayed abbey. The town consists chiefly of one long street, extending from the abbey to the bridge. Here is a manufacture of cloth. Barges come up hither by the help of art with a full stream in a deep safe channel. Near this place, is Needwood, a large

large forest, with many parks in it, where the sporting gentry divert themselves with hunting and horse racing.

TUTBURY, or STUKESBURY, 120 miles from Lond. stands near the Dove, a little before it falls into the Trent. The castle was given by William the Conqueror to Henry Earl de Ferrariis, who built a priory contiguous to it, in which he was buried. It now belongs to the Duke of Devonshire, and is still a good house.

BROMLEY-PAGETS, 7 miles from Tutbury, is a pretty town, on the skirts of Derbyshire, remarkable for a sport on New Years-day and Twelfth-day, called the Hobby-horse-dance, from a person who rode upon the image of a horse with a bow and arrow in his hands, with which he made a snapping noise, and kept time with the music, while six other men danced with as many rein-deer heads on their shoulders. To this Hobby-horse belonged a pot, which the Reeves of the town filled with cakes and ale, toward which the spectators contributed a penny; with the remainder they maintained their poor, and repaired the church.

UTOXETER, or TOCESTER, 7 miles from Tutbury, stands on a hill of easy ascent near the river Dove, over which is a firm stone bridge; the town is rather rich by means of its fine meadows and cattle, than neat in respect of buildings. The market is reckoned one of the greatest in these parts, for cattle, sheep, butter, cheese, corn, and all provisions. Some of the London cheesemongers, by their factors, make purchases to the value of 500l. a day.

STONE, 5 miles from Stafford, 141 from Lond. is a place on the Trent, with commodious inns, in the great road to West-Chester; it was so called from a heap of stones to preserve the memory of the murder committed by Wulpher, King of Mercia, on his two sons, for embracing christianity; but he afterward repented and became a christian: This heap of stones their mother turned into a tomb, and thereupon erected a church.

ECCLESHAL, near the river Sow, is a pretty town noted for pedlars wares.

Among the ANTIQUITIES in this county are several lows, as they are called, near Wiggington, which from the

the pieces of bones, coals and ashes they contain, appear to have been the depositaries of Roman bones after they were burnt.

At CHICKLEY, 14 miles from Newcastle, are three stones with little images cut upon 2 of them, and erected spirewise in the church-yard, which are very remarkable; but it is not known when, by whom, or for what purpose they were set up.

In DUDLEY-CASTLE-HALL, 4 miles from Wolverhampton, is a table of one entire oak plank, 17 yards in length, and 1 in breadth; at first it measured 7 yards and 9 inches more, which were cut off to suit it to the hall. The tree grew in the new park at Dudley, and is said to have contained 100 ton of neat timber. The castle stands on a high mountain, and is cut out of a rock with a lofty tower on it, from whence is a prospect into five shires, and part of Wales. It was built by Dudo or Doda, a Saxon, about the year 700.

APEWOOD-CASTLE, on the edge of Shropshire, is a fortification, supposed to have been British, standing on a lofty promontory, with a steep ridge for half a mile together, having hollows cut in the ground, over which it is thought they pitched their tents: and on Ashwood-heath is the appearance of a Roman camp.

ALVERTON, ELVERTON, or ALTON, is a very ancient castle, built before the Norman conquest.

CROXTON ABBEY, was founded by Bertram de Verdun, who died some years after in the Holy Land.

DUDLEY PRIORY, was founded in the reign of Henry II. by Gervaise de Pagnel, and dedicated to St. James.

SEATS.

Duke of Bridgewater's, at Newborough.

The Earl of Berkshire's, at Elford, near Litchfield.

The late Earl of Stafford's, Stafford-castle.

Earl of Uxbridge's, at Beaudefert, near Litchfield.

Earl of Dartmouth's, at Sandwell.

Earl of Stamford's, Envield-hall, near Sturbridge.

Earl Gower's, at Trentham, near Newcastle.

Lord Leigh's, at Ridware, near Litchfield.

Lord

Lord Vane's, at Careswell, 9 miles from Stafford.

Baroness Dudley's, Dudley-castle.

Lord Aston's, at Tixal, near Stafford.

Lord Chetwynd's, at Ingestree.

SHROPSHIRE, or the County of SALOP,

IS bounded on the E. by Staffordshire; on the N. by Cheshire; on the S. by Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Radnorshire; and on the W. by Montgomery and Denbighshire in Wales. It is divided in two parts by the Severn, which runs through the county from W. to S. E. It is of an oval form, almost circular, about 134 miles in compass, and contains 40 miles in length, and 31 in breadth. It hath 15 market towns, 170 parishes, and 615 villages. The air of this county is very healthy. The soil in the S. and W. parts, which are the most hilly, is not so fruitful as the low grounds, where plenty of grain is produced. Besides inexhaustible pits of coal, here also are mines of copper, lead, iron-stone and lime-stone. Over most of the coal pits lies a stratum of a blackish, hard, but very porous substance, containing great quantities of bitumen, which being ground and well boiled in coppers of water, on the surface swims the bituminous matter, which by evaporation is brought to the consistence of pitch, or by the help of an oil distilled from the same stone, and mixed with it, may be thinned to a sort of tar, which may serve for caulking ships. It sends to parliament two Knights for the shire, and two Burgeses for each of the following towns, viz. Shrewsbury, Bridgenorth, Ludlow, Wenlock, and Bishop's-castle. Here are the ruins of an abbey, founded about the year 1083, by R. de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury; who in his old age quitted a military life, was shorn a Monk, and ended his days in this abbey, where he was buried, A. D. 1094.

SHREWSBURY, 156 miles from Lond. is delightfully situated on the river Severn. The Saxons termed it Scrobbes-

Scrobber-berg because the hill it stands upon was covered with shrubs; the Normans Scropesbery, Stoppesbury, and Salop; the Britains called it Penguerine, i. e. a brow of alders; it has two fair bridges over the Severn, which surrounds it, except on the N. side, in the form of a horse shoe, and renders it a Peninsula. It has a free grammar school founded and endowed by Edw. VI. Queen Elizabeth rebuilt it, and added a library, and endowed it more largely with convenient houses and salaries for the three masters. Here are 5 churches, besides meeting houses. Here are 12 incorporated companies, who repair in their formalities once a year, to Kingsland, on the opposite side of the Severn, where they entertain the mayor and corporation in bowers erected for that purpose, and distinguished by mottos or devices suitable to their respective arts and trades. The streets are large and the houses well built, with hanging gardens down to the river. Charles II. would have erected this town into a city, but the townsmen chose to remain a corporation, for which refusal they were afterwards called the proud Salopians. The town has been famed throughout England for cakes; its brawn is reckoned to exceed that of Canterbury. Here is plenty of provisions especially salmon and other good fish; the place itself is very pleasant, and full of gentry, who chuse to live within the compass of their estates; they have balls and assemblies once a week all the year. Here are many Welch families; on market days the general language is Welch. One great ornament in this town is that called the quarry, now converted into one of the finest walks in England both for beauty and extent. It takes in at least 20 acres of ground on the S. and S. W. sides of the town, betwixt its walls and the Severn. It is shaded with rows of lime trees on each side, and adorned in the center with a fine double alcove, and seats on both sides, one of them facing the town, and the other the river; it is reckoned not inferior to the Mall in St. James's-park. Upon the Welch bridge there is a noble gate, over the arch of which is placed the statue of the great Llewellyn, the idol of the Welch, and the last Prince of Wales. The walls and gates

gates are yet standing, though there are houses built on some part of the walls. The castle, of which some parts are still remaining, was built about the year 1083, by Ri de Montgomery, afterwards Earl of Shrewsbury. It stands on a rock, almost encompassed by the Severn. The great Roman road, called Watling-street, is visible at Wroxeter, in the neighbourhood; and in the bottom of the river, when the water is low, are to be seen the remains of a stone bridge. This road is raised a good height above the soil, and so straight, that it may be seen from an eminence 10 or 15 miles both ways. Roman coins are frequently dug up here, as are bones of men of a large size.

BRIDGENORTH, 139 miles from Lond. so called from the building of some bridge over the Severn to the S. of it, is a very antient town on the bank of that river. It stands secure upon a rock, through which the way leading to the upper part of this town was cut. It is a large place, consisting of the upper and lower towns, separated by the Severn, over which it has a fair stone bridge of 7 arches, with a gatehouse on it, beside some houses for defence and ornament. Its situation is pleasant as well as commodious for trade; its air healthy, and its prospect delightful. The hill on which the upper town stands rises 60 yards from the W. bank of the river: Many of the houses are founded upon a rock, and most of their cellars are caves hewn out of it. The church is a large handsome structure. Some part of the demolished castle is converted into one of the finest bowling greens in the kingdom for its prospect. Upon the brow of the castle hill there is a walk which was much the delight of Charles the First, who was here three times in the civil wars, and said he thought it the pleasantest in his dominions. The town consists chiefly of three streets well paved, and well built, one of which is called Mill-street, because it leads to the town mills, that are parallel to the river on the west side, and is adorned with stately structures.

This town is a place of great trade both by land and water. Its market is well stocked, and its fairs are resorted to from most parts of the kingdom, for horses, black cattle

cattle, sheep, butter, cheese, bacon, linen cloth, hops, and most other goods and merchandize. The town is well furnished with all sorts of artificers, and is famous for making stockings. Here are two churches, one called High Church, from its situation on the highest part of the hill, and the other within the castle. The town is supplied by leaden pipes with very good water from a spring about half a mile's distance; but a sufficient quantity of the Severn water is thrown up to the top of the Castle Hill, by an engine for that purpose, the contrivance of those who erected the water works at London Bridge.

LUDLOW, 29 miles from Shrewsbury, 28 from Lond. is situated on a hill near the place where the river Theme joins with the Corve. It has a large neat church, which stands on the highest ground in the town. This town, lying so near Wales, receives great advantage by its thoroughfare, and education of the Welsh youth of both sexes. The inhabitants are reckoned more polite than their neighbours. The town is divided into four wards, and has seven gates in its walls. The street which enters the town is spacious, and the Castle, to which it leads, has a commanding prospect. This noble structure stands on a rock in the N. W. angle of the town, near the river Theme; was built by Roger de Montgomery, but is now dropping to ruin. Within its walls is a palace, where the Lords Presidents under the Princes of Wales used to lodge; and also a neat chapel. The river Theme, which runs on the S. side of the town, with a good bridge over it, has several dams or weres across it, and turns abundance of mills. In the market-place is a conduit, on the top whereof is a long stone cross, bearing a niche, wherein is the image of St. Lawrence. The country round is exceedingly pleasant, fruitful and populous, especially that part called Corvedale, from the river Corve abovementioned.

WENLOCK, 10 miles from Shrewsbury, 143 from Lond. is an antient corporation. It had in Richard the Ild's time a copper mine, but is now only noted for limestones and tobacco-pipe-clay. Wenlock-Albey was
O town ed

founded by Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, A. D. 1081, for the Monks of the Cluniac order; he dedicated the church to St. Milburga.

BISHOPS-CASTLE, 15 miles from Wenlock, 152 from Lond. is a small town, but an antient body corporate; its market is noted for cattle and all sorts of commodities. This town is upon the river Clun, in a kind of promontory between Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire.

WHITCHURCH, 20 miles from Shrewsbury, 161 from Lond. is a pleasant, large, and populous town, but of no great trade, on the borders of Cheshire. In the church are some antient monuments, particularly that of the famous Sir J. Talbot's, the first Earl of Shrewsbury, who became so renowned in the wars with France, as to be called the English Achilles. This church was handsomely rebuilt in 1712.

OSWESTRY, 172 miles from London, is an antient pleasant market town and corporation, situated on a plain at the foot of the mountains, toward Denbighshire. On the market days there is a great traffic carried on there for Welch flannels and freestone, of which commodities it is the staple. The town is encompassed with decayed walls, and adjoining are the scarcely distinguishable remains of an antient castle. This seems now little more than a small round hill, from which is a very fine view of the curcumjacent country. The church of St. Oswald stands without the new gate, but there is not one in the town. Here is a grammar school and a large charity school.

WEM, 166 miles from Lond. is a town of good note and antiquity; Sir Thomas Adams, Draper, and Lord Mayor of London, gave the house here, in which he was born, to be a free school for the children of this town, and liberally endowed it.

NEWPORT, 140 miles from Lond. is a town with a well furnished market on the borders of Staffordshire, by the Roman way, called Watling-street; but most remarkable for a free school founded and endowed by William Adams, Esq; of London, Haberdasher, a native of this place, to the amount of 7000l. He also gave a library,

SHROPSHIRE.

ry, with salaries and houses for the master and ushers, and an acre of ground to each, and two acres for the boys to play in. He also built an alms-house, and gave 500*l.* toward building the town-house.

Antiquities and other remarkables in this shire.

About half a mile from Oswestry, are the most curious remains of a Roman camp, any where perhaps to be seen in England. It consists of five or six deep trenches one above another, including a circular hill nearly two miles round; the summit of which is a delightful flat spot, containing about ten acres of good land. From the sides where the trenches are, was lately cut down a wood of stately oaks. It is much to be wondered at, that no description has hitherto been given of this formidable camp, which goes by the name of Old Oswestry, and which will delight any curious investigator of history and remains of antiquity.

CAER-CARADOCK, a large hill at the conflux of the Clun and Theme, the scene of that action between Ostorius the Roman, and Caractacus the Briton, of which we have a very distinct account in Tacitus. The tokens are still to be seen near Lanterden, where are two barrows, in which have been found burnt bones and an urn.

On CLEE HILL, 10 miles from Bridgnorth, are the remains of an antient camp; it is also famous for producing the best pit-coal, and has some veins of iron.

PITCHFORD, a small distance from Wenlock, has a well where a liquid bitumen floats, which the inhabitants skim off, and use instead of pitch; some think it good against the falling sickness and for wounds.

BROSELY, 6 miles from Bridgnorth, is noted for a well exhaling a sulphurous vapour, which when contracted to one vent by means of an iron cover with a circular hole, and set on fire by a candle, burns like spirits of wine with a heat that will boil food. It is remarkable that meat broiled in its flame has not the least ill taste from its sulphur: and yet more strange that the water of

S H R O P S H I R E.

It is extremely cold; and as soon as ever the fire is put out, it feels as cold as if none had been there.

WREKIN-HILL is noted as the highest ground, and stands between the Severn and the Watling-street.

At WROXETER, the antient Uriconium, the remains of Roman fortifications and buildings are still visible, which in the middle are about 20 feet high and 100 in length. It stands on the Severn near its junction with the Tern.

This place was surrounded with a wall three yards thick, consisting chiefly of pebbles, and had a vast trench round it, which in some places is still very deep.

HOGHAM PRIORY, was founded by William Fitz Allan, in 1100, for Canons regular of St. Augustine.

HALESOWEN ABBEY, was founded by Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, in the reign of King John.

LILleshill PRIORY, was founded about the year 1140, by Canons regular of St. Augustine, who came from St. Peter's, Dorchester.

BILDENCAS ABBEY, was founded and endowed in the year 1153, by Roger de Clinton, Bishop of Litchfield and Coventry.

HOPTON CASTLE, in Purflow hundred, is situated on an artificial hill, and remarkable for several gallant actions performed here in the civil wars.

WHITE LADIES, in the parish of Tonge, on the E. side of the county, is noted for having been the shelter of King Charles II. who fled hither after his defeat at Worcester, and was so closely pursued by his enemies, that he was conducted to the neighbouring grove of Boscobel, and there hid himself in an oak, from whence he had the satisfaction of seeing the parliament soldiers, who were in quest of him, diverted to the other side of the wood in the chasing of an owl. The tree is now inclosed with a brick wall, travellers having almost cut it away. It is said the King, coming hither after his restoration, gathered some of the acorns, planted them at St. James's, and used to water them himself. The fishermen here have a pretty device for catching fish, which is called a coracle, wherein one man being seated, will row himself very

very swiftly with one hand, whilst with the other he manages his fishing tackle; it is of a form almost oval, made of split fallow twigs interwoven (round at the bottoms) and that part next the water is covered with a horses hide. It is about five feet long, and three broad, and so light that they carry it out and home on their backs.

Thomas Parr, who lived to the age of 150, was a native of this county.

SEATS.

The Duke of Kingston's, at Tong-castle, near Staffordshire. This is a very antient structure, and in the Saxon times belonged to the Earls of Northumberland.

The late Earl of Bradford's, at Arcal and Eyton.

The Earl of Shrewsbury's, at Pepper-hill.

Late Earl of Stafford's, at Shefnal.

Lord Viscount Kilmurray's, Shenton-hall.

Lord Craven's, at Stoke, near Wenlock.

Earl of Powis's, at Ockley-park, near Munslow.

Sir Thomas Whitmore's, at Apley.

Sir Richard Corbet's, of Leighton, at Longnor.

Mr. Kinaston's, eight miles from Shrewsbury.

Sir Richard Corbet's, at Adderley, near Drayton.

Sir Hugh Brigg's, Bart. at Houghton, near Shefnal.

Sir Richard Acton's, at Audley.

Sir Watkin Williams Wynn's, at Lanvarda.

Sir Edward Smith's, at Acton Burnel. This castle is remarkable for the statute of Acton Burnel, made here in the reign of Edward I.

Sir Charlton Leighton's, at Wattleborough.

Sir Rowland Hill's, at Hawkston, near Hodnet.

Sir William Fowler's, Harnage Grange.

Sir John Astley's, at the Abbey Foregate.

Mr. Cresset's, at Cond, near Salop.

Rev. Dr. Robert Eyton's, at Criggon.

Lady Woolridge's, at Didmarston.

Mrs. Pope's, at Wistanton, near Ludlow.

Orlando Bridgeman's, Esq; at Blodwal.

Edward Brown's, Esq; at Cangley.

Thomas Beale, Esq; at the Heath, near Ludlow.
 Trafford Barnston's, Esq; at Condover, near Shrewsbury.

William Cludd's, Esq; at Orton.

Richard Clive's, Esq; at Stich.

Job Charlton's, Esq; at Park-hall, near Oswestry.

Sherrington Davenport's, of Davenport, Esq;

Thomas Eyton's, Esq; at Wilmores.

Geoffolphin Edwards's, Esq; Froddersley.

William Forrester's, Esq; at Dothill.

Thomas Gardiner's, Esq; at Sauseau.

Thomas Hunt's, Esq; at Boreatton.

— Harnage's, Esq; at Belferdine, near Condover.

Thomas Harwood Hill's, Esq; at Tearn, near Salop.

Edward Jordan's, Esq; of Priors Leigh.

Andrew Corbet's, Esq; at Moreton-Corbet, near Salop.

Edward Kinaston's, Esq; at Oatley, near Ellesmere.

Edward Kynaston's, Esq; at Hardwick.

Henry Powis's, Esq; of the Abbey and Underhill.

Thomas Powis's, Esq; at Barwick near Shrewsbury.

Edward Powis's, Esq; at West-coppice, where he has a deer park bounded by the Severn.

— Powis's, Esq; at Onslow, near Shrewsbury.

Richard Lister's, Esq; at Rowton-castle.

Thomas Langley's, Esq; at Goulding, near Condover.

Thomas Lloyd's, Esq; at Aston.

— Lutwych's, Esq; at Lutwych.

John Mytton's, Esq; at Halston.

Sir Herbert Mackworth's, at Buntingdale.

Robert More's, Esq; at Linley, near Wenlock.

William Owen's, Esq; at Porkington, near Oswestry.

Adam Ottley's, Esq; at Pitchford, near Condover.

— Piggot's, Esq; at Chetwind, near Newport.

George Weld's, Esq; at Willy, near Wenlock.

John Weaver's, Esq; at Morvil, near Wenlock.

John Walcot's, Esq; at Walcot.

Thomas Wingfield's, Esq; at Alderton.

William Yonge's, Esq; at Keynton.

Thomas

Thomas Yeates Esq; at Darnford.

The LEASOWES, the seat of the late ingenious William Shenstone, Esq; The great arts of design and composition exercised in laying out these gardens, are deservedly the admiration of all persons of true taste and judgment.

The PRINCIPALITY of WALES.

THIS country was by Roderick, the great King of Wales, about the year 870, divided in favour of his three sons into three parts, which they called kingdoms, namely, Demetia, or South Wales; Powisia, or Powisland; and Venedotia, or North Wales. But this division was attended with such discord, that Powisland was soon swallowed up by the other two. The antient records also divided it into three parts, namely, North Wales, South Wales, and West Wales; containing 14 shires, in which were included Herefordshire and Monmouthshire; but as they have both since been taken from it, and reckoned among those of England, the only divisions now are North Wales and South Wales; the former containing Flint, Caernarvon, Montgomery, Merioneth, Denbigh and Anglesea; the latter, those of Cardigan, Pembroke, Caermarthen, Glamorgan, Brecknock and Radnor.

Wales was incorporated and united with England in the reign of Henry VIII. By statute the English laws and liberties took place there; and all Welsh laws, customs and tenures, not agreeable to those of England, were abrogated. By this statute, Wales was divided into twelve counties, each of which has the privilege of returning a Knight, and every shire-town a Burgess to parliament.

RADNORSHIRE

IS bounded on the E. by Shropshire and Herefordshire: by Brecknockshire and Cardiganshire on the S. and W. and by Montgomeryshire in N. Wales on the N. It is 29 miles in length, and 18 in breadth; containing four market towns, 52 parishes, 6 hundreds, 5 castles, and 3 forests, all in the dioceses of Hereford and St. David's. The air is sharp and piercing. The E. and S. parts are pretty fruitful in corn; but the N. and W. parts are so rocky and mountainous, as to be only fit for feeding cattle and sheep. The chief commodities are cheese and horses. It sends one member to parliament for the county, and one for the chief town, viz.

NEW RADNOR, 157 miles from London, is a very antient borough, well built for these parts, but chiefly thatched houses. It was called Radnor by the English from Rhaiadr Gwy, or the cataract of the river Wye near the town of Rhaiadr. It stands in a fruitful valley, at the bottom of a hill, where abundance of sheep are fed.

PRESTIN, 7 miles from Radnor, stands on the river Lug, in a rich and pleasant valley, near its entrance into Herefordshire; and is the place where the assizes and county goal are kept; on which account it is populous and well frequented. It is a fair, large, well-built town, and the streets are well paved. Here is a very good market for grain, especially barley, of which they make store of malt.

KNIGHTON, 4 miles from Prestin, stands in a valley on the river Theme, over which it has a bridge. It is well built, has a good trade and resort: Its market is well served with cattle, corn, and other commodities.

The most remarkable antiquity in this shire is Offa's Dyke or Klawdh Offa, so called from Offa King of Mercia, who had it cast up as a boundary between the English-Saxons and the antient Britons, who had been driven into Wales. It begins at Bleachey, over against Aust Passage on the Severn, and extends from its mouth

BRECKNOCKSHIRE. 297

to that of the Dee 90 miles. It is said that Harold made a law, that if any Welshman passed this dyke, the King's officers should cut off his right hand.

On the top of a hill, called Gwastedin, near Rhaiadr Gwy, are three large heaps of stone, called Karns, common on the mountains of Wales, and likewise in the north of England, in Scotland, and in Ireland, and which were generally intended as memorials for the dead; men of the best quality having had such funeral piles before the establishment of Christianity here.

SEATS.

Sir Humphry Howarth's, at Maesfletwich.
Thomas Lewis's, Esq; at Harpton.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

IS bounded by Radnorshire on the N. from which it is divided by the river Wye; Herefordshire on the E. Monmouthshire on the S. E. Glamorganshire on the S. Caermarthenshire and part of Cardiganshire on the W. It is 35 miles in length, and 34 in breadth, and divided into six hundreds, which contain 4 market towns. It is very mountainous, except on the N. side; but intermixed with a good number of pleasant vales, producing plenty of corn; and its mountains are well stocked with cattle. The air is mild, except on the hills, where it is sharp, but wholesome. This county produces black cattle and goats, venison, and great quantities of wild fowl. It sends one member for the county, and another for Brecknock.

BRECKNOCK, or BRECON, 159 miles from Lond. which is the capital, and almost the centre of the county, is a compact, well-built town, where the assizes are held. It stands at the confluence of the rivers Hondhy and Usk, over which it has a good stone bridge; it is well inhabited, and has some share in the woollen manufacture. The ruins of its castle, built by Bernard de

Newmarch, in the reign of William Rufus, remain; its markets are well supplied with cattle, corn, and other provisions. Brecknock Priory was founded in the reign of Henry I. by Bernard de Newmarch. It is now a parish church, and still a most magnificent building, situated on an eminence, and built in the form of a cross. In the centre of the cross an embattled tower rises about 90 feet high, and lies open to the church above the roof. In the priory house the refectory or dining room is still remaining. Here was a house of Black-Friars, which Hen. VIII. converted into a college, by the name of the college of Christ's church in Brecknock: it is still in being, and consists of the Bishop of St. David's, who presides as dean, a precentor, a treasurer, a chancellor, and nineteen prebendaries.

BEALT, 10 miles from Brecknock, a pleasant town, in a woody country, on the river Wye, over which it has a large wooden bridge leading to Radnorshire. This town has a considerable manufacture of stockings.

HAY, 151 miles from London, is a good town, on the banks of the Wye, and the borders of Herefordshire. It is supposed to have been well known to the Romans, because of their coins often found there, and some ruins of walls still remaining.

The most remarkable antiquity of this county, is that noted monument called the Maiden Stone, in British, Mayen y Mor'ynnion. It is a rude pillar, in the middle of the road near Brecknock, which is 6 feet high, 2 broad, and 6 inches thick. On one side are the figures of a man and a woman in antient habits, but whether the work be British or Roman is uncertain.

The only seats of note in this county are CRICKHOWEL and TRETOWRY castles near the river Usk, belonging to the Duke of Beaufort. And

LLANTHEW CASTLE, situated on the E. side of the river Hondhy, belonging to the Bishops of St. David's.

GLAMORGANSHIRE,

A maritime county, having the Severn Sea on Bristol channel on the S. Monmouthshire on the E. Caermarthenshire on the W. and Brecknockshire on the N. Its length is computed at 45 miles, and breadth 21. It is divided into ten hundreds, which contain the like number of market towns, and 18 parishes, in which are 5 castles, and as many parks. The air on the N. side, where it is mountainous, is very sharp; but on the S. mild and agreeable; consequently the soil on the N. side is but indifferent; whereas to the S. it is not only more level, but fitter for cultivation, and bears large crops of corn and very sweet grass. As to sheep and oxen, they abound every where, insomuch, that from its very good pastures it is called the garden of Wales. Its commodities are lead, coals, fish and butter. It sends to parliament one Knight of the shire, and one Burgefs.

CARDIFF, 161 miles from Lond. the capital, where the assizes are also held. It has a bridge over the Taff, to which small vessels may come up, and lade or unlade there. This is a large, well-built town, and reckoned the most beautiful in all S. Wales; but, though two parishes, has only one church. It has a good trade with Bristol, and plentiful markets and fairs for corn, cattle, sheep, horses and swine. Without the E. gate is a large suburb, called Crockerton; without the N. gate stands the White Friars; and without the W. gate a small suburb adjoining to the Black Friars, wherein stands the castle, a strong, spacious edifice, built by Robert Fitz Hamon, the Conqueror of Glamorganshire, about the year 1100.

LLANDAFF, 163 miles from Lond. is of no consideration, unless on account of its cathedral, which is a fine structure, and, though built upwards of 640 years since, is still in very good condition. This city stands on the Taff, and was made an episcopal see by St. Dubricius, about the year 490.

At a small distance from Cardiff Point, are two small islands pretty close together; in one of them, called Barry, is a narrow chink, to which, it is said, if the ear be applied, one hears a noise like that in a smith's shop; but Bishop Gibson, in his additions to Camden says, this noise is heard at Wormshead Point, farther westward.

COWBRIDGE, 8 miles from Llandaff, 173 from London, has a stone bridge over the river Ewenny. It stands in a low bottom and fruitful soil, has a market well frequented for cattle, sheep, corn, and other provisions, with a harbour for boats.

At NEWTON, a village in this neighbourhood, is a well, which is almost empty at high tide, but flows at ebb-tide ready to run over.

NEATH, 6 miles from Swansea, has a bridge over a river of the same name, noted for quicksands, to which small vessels come up from Burton Ferry in the Severn to load coals. It is an antient town, betwixt which and Cardiff is a large bay called Cardiff Bay, formed by the Naes above Cardiff, and the Wormshead S. of Swansea. On the west side of the river is a very old castle; but when or by whom erected is very uncertain: it was rebuilt by Richard de Granville, about the year 1090; and in 1231 it was burnt by Prince Llewelyn. Here are also the ruins of an abbey, founded by Richard de Granville about the year 1150.

SWANSEY, 202 miles from Lond. is an antient, large, clean and well built town, which drives the greatest trade of any town in the county, especially in coals, holds a great correspondence with Bristol, and has an exceeding good harbour, where sometimes 100 ships at a time come in for coals and culm. The town stands on the river Twye, and its markets are well furnished with all necessaries. Here are the remains of an antient castle, built by Henry Beaumont, E. of Warwick, about the year 1113.

PENRISE, stands 9 miles S. W. of Swansea, nearer the sea, and has a harbour for ships near Wormshead-point. Here are still considerable remains of a very antient

tient castle. Not far from hence is another old structure called Webley-castle, situated on a bold eminence.

CAERPHYLI-CASTLE, is the noblest ruin of antient architecture in the whole island, being larger than any castle in England, except Windsor. It stands in a moorish bottom, not far from the Rhymny; and though perhaps the building was originally a work of the Romans, yet the ruins plainly shew it has been rebuilt since their time. A room is still left 70 feet in length, 34 in breadth, and 17 in height; besides several other monuments of antient grandeur. Among the many stupendous pieces that compose this vast pile of ruins, is a large tower towards the east end between seventy and eighty feet high; it has a vast fissure from the top almost to the middle, by which the tower is divided into two separate leaning parts, so that each side hangs over its base in such a manner, that it is difficult to say which is most likely to fall first. Its lineal proportion at top is no less than ten feet and an half; and what renders it still the more remarkable is, that it has continued to recline from the perpendicular in this manner for many ages past; nor does it appear from history or tradition how or when this rent first happened.

On a mountain, called Kevn-bryn, in Gowerland, is a monument of a vast unwrought stone upwards of 20 ton, supported by six or seven others not more than four feet high, set round in a circle to bear up the great one, being all of the mill-stone kind.

At LANTRISSENT, near Llandaff, is one of the most extraordinary performances in architecture, that perhaps ever appeared. It is a stone bridge thrown from one hill to another over the river Taaf, the work of one William Edwards, an illiterate Welshman. The breadth of this bridge is only eight feet. How so narrow an edifice could be thrown from one mountain to the other is truly astonishing, and worthy the attention of the architect as well as the curious traveller. The diameter of the circle is 175 feet, the chord of the arch 140 feet, the altitude from the chord to the arch 35 feet. It was twice built,

built, because the buttments gave way. The cost was no more than 200*l*. 1784 a new castle was built.

SEATS.

- Duke of Beaufort's, at Swansea-castle.
- Earl of Pembroke's, at Cardiff-castle.
- Earl of Leicester's, Cothey-castle.
- Lord Mansel's, at Cynfig-castle, and at Margam.
- Late Hon. Buffy Mansel's, St. Donat's-castle.

CARMARTHENSHIRE

IS bounded on the E. with the shires of Brecknock and Glamorgan; the Severn sea or St. George's channel on the S. Pembrokeshire on the W. and Cardiganshire on the N. from which it is separated from the river Teivy. It is 40 miles in length, and 27 in breadth. It contains 87 parishes, and is divided into six hundreds, in which are 8 market towns. The air is milder and wholesomer than in most of the neighbouring counties; and the soil being not so rocky and mountainous, is more fruitful, especially in corn and grafs, coals and lime. It sends to parliament one knight of the shire, and one burgeses for the shire and assize town.

CAERMARTHEN, 204 miles from London, and 70 from the sea, the *Maridunum* of Ptolemy and *Muridunum* of Antoninus, is situate on the river Towy, over which it has a stone bridge, and is a place venerable for its antiquity. It is a very polite, industrious, thriving and populous town, of great resort, and drives a very considerable trade. The river it stands on is navigable for vessels of 100 tons, quite up to the town, where it has a commodious key. This place was antiently reckoned the capital of Wales; the Britons made it the seat of their parliaments, or assemblies of wise men; and when Wales was erected into a principality for the King's eldest son, the courts of Chancery and Exchequer were fixed here, and continued till the jurisdiction

direction of the court and marches of Wales was taken away. The town is not only supplied with fish from its river, but with great plenty of fish, fowl, &c. from the adjacent country. The neighbouring gentry have their winter houses here, and generally a company of players at that season, besides frequent assemblies and other gay entertainments, so that some call it the London of Wales. In the year 480 here flourished the famous British Merlin, reckoned a prophet. About a mile from the town, almost opposite to the Bishop of St. David's palace, is a hill covered with wood called Merlin's grove, to which Merlin often retired, the better to pursue his studies. He is said to have been a person of extraordinary learning, for the age in which he lived; and it is thought that he obtained the reputation of being a conjuror by his learning and knowledge. The castle is a noble piece of antiquity. About 10 miles E. of this town are the remains of Denefawr-castle, once the royal seat of the Princes of South Wales.

KIDWELY, 222 miles from London, is a town in a vast bay, called Tenby. It formerly had a good share in the cloathing trade, but is now mostly frequented by fishermen. Here are the remains of a famous castle, said to have been built by William de Londres, before the Norman conquest.

LANINDOVERY, 178 miles from London, stands near the river Towy, which Ptolemy calls Tobius, a pretty fair bailiwick. St. Mary's, its parish church, stands at a little distance upon a hill; not far from which Roman bricks and other antiquities have been dug; and a very remarkable Roman way runs between the church and Lhan Bran, the seat of the Gwyns.

LLANDILOVAWR, 191 miles from London, is a pretty good town, on an ascent, with the river Towy at the bottom, over which it has a fair stone bridge. Its parish is 13 miles long, and 7 or 8 broad. Its markets are for corn, cattle and other provisions. About 4 miles E. of this town are the remains of Caerkenin-castle, situated on a rock.

LAUGHARN

LAUGHARN or TALCHARN, 230 miles from London, stands on the Towy, near its influx into the sea, a pretty good town, with some small vessels belonging to it.

LLANELTHY, 213 miles from Lond. stands on a creek not far W. from the Og, which separates this county from Glamorganshire. It is a good town, much traded to for sea-coal.

The antient places of note in this county are,

LHAN-NEWYDH, near Carmarthen, remarkable for a stone pillar near the highway, inscribed with these words, *Sepulchrum Severini Filii Severi*; and for being the residence of a great ancestor of Oliver Cromwell the Protector.

At BRONYS CAWEN, in the parish of Lhan Brody, not far from the former, two hundred Roman coins, of silver, were discovered in 1692 at the entrance of a spacious camp, buried in two very rude leaden boxes near the surface. These are some of the most antient Roman coins we find in Britain; the latest were of Domitian.

CASTEL-KARREG ruins in Cawtrewhychan, on the E. side of the aforesaid camp, on a steep and inaccessible rock, under which are vaults, spacious caverns, and a fountain, whose waters ebb and flow with the tides.

Below TALCHARN, on the bank of the Tav, stood the white house, so called because built of white hazle rods for a summer house, where Howel Dha, or the good Prince of Wales, in an assembly of 140 ecclesiastics, beside laymen, gave a body of laws to his people.

At KIL MAEN LHWD, an earthen vessel was discovered in 1607, which contained a considerable quantity of Roman coins of embased silver, from the time of Commodus to the tribuneship of Gordian III. Near this place is a circle of prodigious stones.

SEATS.

Duke of Bolton's, Emlyn-castle.

GOLDEN GROVE, Mr. Vaughan's.

Bishop of St. David's, at Aberguilly.

Sir Nicholas William's, Edingsford.

Sir

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Sir John Powell Pryse's, at Newton.

Sir John Rudd's, at Aberglasney.

PEMBROKESHIRE

IS encompassed all round with the Irish Sea, or St. George's channel, except on the E. where it joins to Caermarthenshire; and on the N. E. to Cardiganshire. It is the S. W. extremity of Wales, and lies the nearest to Ireland of any of its counties. It is 33 miles in length, and 28 in breadth; containing 145 parishes, 7 hundreds, one city, 9 market towns, 16 castles and 2 block-houses, 2 forests and 3 parks. The soil is fruitful; its few mountains, chiefly in the N. E. part, have indifferent good pasture; but the parts near the sea abound with rich meadows and good corn. It abounds with goats, fish, fowl, marble, pit coal, and culm, which is the dust of the coal, and, when made up with a third of mud into balls, makes a sweet and durable fire. This county sends one knight of the shire to parliament, one member for Haverfordwest, and one for the town of Pembroke.

HAVERFORD-WEST, 11 miles from Pembroke, 236 from London, stands on the side of a hill, but is a very neat, well built, strong, populous and trading town, having a fine stone bridge over the river Dougledde, leading to Prendergast, with plentiful markets, a commodious key for ships of burthen, and a custom-house. There are three parish churches in the town, beside one in the out parts, called Prengest. St. Mary's is a very neat building, with a high spire curiously leaded. This town and neighbourhood abounds with gentry: and here the assizes and county goal are kept. The priory, of which there are still considerable remains, was founded by Robert de Haverford, about the year 1141. The castle is supposed to have been built by Gilbert Earl of Clare. The country from hence to St. David's looks dry, barren, and mountainous.

PEMBROKE,

PEMBROKE, 234 miles from London, the county town, stands at the innermost and eastern creek of Milford Haven. It has two handsome bridges over the 2 points of it. Here are the remains of an antient castle on a rock, in which Hen. VII. was born, and under it is a vault noted for a strange echo, called the Wogan, and supposed to have been originally a store room for the garrison. It was built by Arnulph de Montgomery in the reign of Hen. I. It has two parishes, is well frequented not only by gentlemen but likewise tradesmen; has a custom-house, and several merchants, whose houses are well built. By the favour of its situation, they carry on such extensive commerce, that they employ near 200 ships and vessels; and, next to Caermarthen, it is the largest and richest town in all South-Wales.

ST. DAVID'S is a city, and stands on the most western promontory of Wales, which extends into the Irish Sea, called by Ptolemy *Olltopitarum*, commonly St. David's-head. It is 252 miles distant from Lond. The Welsh call it Tydewi, from the Archbishop Dewi or David, who translated the archiepiscopal see hither from Caerleon in King Arthur's days; and having won a great victory over the Saxons, ordered every one of his soldiers to place a leek in his cap for the sake of distinction; in memory whereof the Welch to this day wear the leek on the first of March. It appears to have been once of good account and to have had a castle and walls, which though, both long since destroyed and the place reduced, yet it still continues the see of a Bishop. It has little worthy of notice beside its cathedral, built in the reign of King John, and dedicated to St. Andrew and St. David: this is a venerable old building, the W. end of which is in good repair, but the E. end has suffered much from time and neglect. This cathedral has no Dean; the precentor has the place and power of a Dean. The episcopal palace and cathedral are encompassed with a stone wall 1100 yards in circumference, and is a large and magnificent ruin. There was in it one hall 88 feet long and 30 broad; and another 58 feet long and 23 broad: The other apartments were grand and noble in proportion. This

This town stands within a mile from the sea; and Ireland, which is 40 miles off, may be seen from St. David's-head in a clear day.

On this coast, near Stackpool Bosher, is Bosharstoneer, so deep, that it could never be founded. It bubbles, foams, and makes a great noise before a storm. Though Holy-head in North Wales is now, yet this once was the great ferry to Ireland, being an easy passage to that country, and though not shorter reckoned safer.

MILFORD-HAVEN has 16 creeks, 5 bays, and 13 roads, in which 1000 sail of ships may ride securely. It is the best harbour in the three kingdoms, there being no manner of danger in sailing in or out of it with the tide, and almost any wind, by night as well as by day: and a ship in distress may run ashore on soft ooze, and there lie safe. The spring tide rises in the harbour 36 feet, and the neap about 26. But that which makes this the most excellent and useful harbour in this part of the world, is, that in an hour's time a ship is out of the harbour into the sea, and in the fair way between the Lands-end and Ireland: as it lies in the mouth of the Severn, a ship in eight or ten hours may be over on the coast of Ireland.

TENBY, 6 miles from Pembroke, is a neat town, its markets are well stored with corn, fish, and other provisions; and the road for shipping is very good. It has a great herring fishery, a large export of coals, and drives a considerable trade to Ireland; so that it is reckoned the most agreeable on all the sea coast of south Wales, except Pembroke. Here are the ruins of an antient castle built by the Normans, and taken by Rhys ap Gruffydd Prince of South Wales, A. D. 1152.

WHISTON, 3 miles from Haverford-west, a mean place, but governed by a mayor and bailiffs.

FISHGARD, 16 miles from St. David's, so called from its fishery, has a good harbour; the trade is in herrings, which are caught at the foot of the cliff on which this town is built.

NEWPORT, 4 miles from Fishgard, on the river Neversn, has a good harbour and trade with Ireland, chiefly in passengers to and from that kingdom. Though it is
a large

a large town, governed by a portreeve and bailiff, and has a fair church, it is a poor place and meanly inhabited.

On a sea cliff, half a mile from St. David's, is a remarkable large stone, called in Welsh, y Maen Sigl, implying a rocking stone, from its having been mounted up three feet high upon other stones, in such an equilibrium that a slight touch would rock it from one side to the other; but the parliament Soldiers, in the civil wars under Charles I. regarding this stone as the object of a superstitious tradition, destroyed its equipoise, so that it is at present immoveable.

In the reigns of K. Henry II. and Queen Elizabeth, the sand on the coast of South Wales being washed away, and the earth laid bare by continual storms, the inhabitants discovered very large trees, which appeared by the mark of the axe to have been felled, and were through time become as black and hard as ebony. It should seem therefore, that great part of the coast was antiently a forest, upon which the sea had broke in.

The rocks off St. David's-head, called the Bishop and his Clerks, are once or twice a year the resort of great flights of birds, which come about Christmas, and stay a week or more; and they return again in April to breed, and leave the rocks before August. It is remarkable, that these birds constantly come and go in the night: for in the evening, when they are about to depart, the rocks shall be covered with them, and in the morning not a bird to be seen: on the other hand, at the season of their return, not a bird shall appear in the evening, and the next morning the rocks shall be full of them. Some of these birds hatch their eggs on the bare rocks, without any nest; and some hatch them in holes like rabbit holes.

At KILLGARRING, which is distant from Lond. 224 miles, is a harbour for boats, a salmon fishery, and a steep cataract of the river Teivy, called the Salmon leap, from the admirable dexterity of that fish in leaping over the cataract. When a salmon, in its way up the river from the sea, arrives at this cataract, it forms itself into a curve by bending its tail to its mouth, and then by a sudden spring throws itself up over the precipice.

Seats.

SEATS.

Sir Richard Philips's, Piston-castle, near Haverfordwest.

Sir William Owen's, at Orleton.

John Campbell's, Esq; at Stackpool-court.

William Owen's, Esq; at Landskipping, near Pembroke.

CARDIGANSHIRE

IS bounded by Merioneth and Montgomeryshire on the N. by Pembroke and Caermarthenshire on the S. by Radnor and Brecknockshire on the E. and is washed on the W. by the Irish sea. It is about 40 miles in length, 18 in breadth, and 90 in circumference; containing five hundreds, 3 rivers, 5 market towns, and 64 parishes. The soil is in general very fruitful, except the N. and E. parts, which consist of a continued ridge of mountains; but every where there is pasture sufficient to maintain numerous flocks of sheep, and large herds of cattle. Coal and other fuel are scarce, but there are several rich lead mines, and some which produce silver.

CARDIGAN, 222 miles from Lond. is pleasantly situated at the mouth of the Teivy, over which it has a good stone bridge leading into Pembrokeshire. It is a large antient, and populous borough, and carries on a considerable trade, especially to Ireland, the tide flowing up to the town. The church is a handsome structure, and the castle is still in being, but in a ruinous condition. It was built by Gilbert de Clare, about the year 1160.

ABERISTWYTH, 203 miles from Lond. is situated on the river Rydal, not at the mouth of the river Istwyth, as its name imports. It is a large, populous, and rich town, but dark and smoaky, and has an increasing trade in lead and fish, but has no parish church. It was formerly fortified with a castle and wall, but both are now in a ruinous condition. It was built by Gilbert Strongbow, son to Richard de Clare, in the reign of Henry I.

LLAN-

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LLANBADARN-VAWR, 227 miles from Lond. has a large church, formerly a cathedral and the see of a Bishop; it is well built and has a good market, but a bad harbour.

LANBEDER, ST. PETER, or PONT STEFFAN, 194 miles from Lond. is a small town on the river Teivy, over which it has a bridge leading to Caermarthenshire. The town stands on a plain, but the church on a hill.

TREGARON, 7 miles from Lanbeder, has a fine church which is the only thing remarkable in the place.

The most remarkable remain of antiquity in this county is Strassour-abbey, built originally by Hore Refus, Prince of South Wales, in the year 1164; but being burnt in the Welsh wars, K. Henry I. rebuilt it. Many of the Welsh Princes were buried here; it being in their time a venerable structure, and where their acts and successions were recorded and kept from 1156 to 1270.

SEATS.

Mr. Lloyd's, at Peterwell, near Landoverly.

Mr. Powell's, at Nanteous.

Mr. Price's, at Gogerddham, near Cardigan.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE

IS bounded by Shropshire on the E. by the shires of Cardigan and Radnor on the S. by Merionethshire on the W. and by the counties of Denbigh, Merioneth, and Salop on the N. It is about 30 miles in length, 25 in breadth, and 94 in circumference; containing seven hundreds, 47 parishes, 6 market towns, 25 rivers, 3 castles, and one chace. The soil in general on the N. and W. sides is stony, but not unfruitful, especially in the vallies between the mountains; but the S. E. and N. E. parts are exceedingly fruitful, especially those which lie on the banks of the Severn, and are sometimes overflowed by it. Its chief commodities are corn, cattle, horses, fish and fowl. The breed of black cattle and

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and horses here is remarkably larger than that in the neighbouring Welch counties; and the horses of Montgomeryshire are much valued all over England. The air on the mountains is sharp and cold, but healthy and pleasant in the vallies.

MONTGOMERY, 161 miles from Lond. is situated in a very healthy air, on the easy ascent of a rocky hill, having beneath it a pleasant valley, through which the Severn winds his course. It is called Trevalwyn, or Baldwin's town, from its founder Baldwin, lieutenant of the marches of Wales, in the time of William the Conqueror; and Montgomery from Roger Montgomery, E. of Shrewsbury, who built its castle, which was ruined in the civil wars. The town is large, but the buildings indifferent except a few belonging to considerable families.

LLANIDLOS, 8 miles from Newton, near the source of the Severn; its parish is noted for mines of lead and copper.

MACHYNLETH, 198 miles from Lond. is an ancient town on the river Davy, over which it has a stone bridge.

LLANVILLING, 179 miles from Lond. is a town of considerable note, and well built. It stands in a dirty plain, but has a good market for cattle, corn, and wool.

WELCH-POOL, 6 miles from Montgomery, is a large, well built corporate town, situated on a lake in a fruitful valley, where is a good manufacture of flannel. On the S. side is a red castle, belonging to the Earl of Powis.

SEATS.

The Earl of Powis's, at Powis-Castle, near Welch-pool; Bullington-Hall; Lhymore Lodge, and at Lyffin.

Sir Charles Lloyd's, at Garth.

Sir John-Powel Price's, at Newton.

Lord Visc. Hereford's, at Vaynor.

Mr. Wynne's, at Llodyrd.

MERIONETHSHIRE

IS bounded by the county of Cardigan on the S. by the counties of Montgomery and Denbigh on the E. by those of Caernarvon and Denbigh on the N. and by the Irish sea on the W. It is about 35 miles in length, 25 in breadth, and 108 miles in circumference; containing six hundreds, 3 towns, 37 parishes, 6 rivers, and 3 castles. The country is very mountainous, the soil rocky and rough, and bears but thin crops of corn; but the vallies afford pretty good pasture for black cattle and sheep, which are the chief support of the inhabitants. The air is cold and bleak, and reckoned unhealthy, being mixed with the vapours that rise from the Irish sea, which might still be more noxious if the sharp winds, which almost continually blow here, did not prevent them from stagnating. The inhabitants, though they live chiefly on preparations of milk, are stout and handsome, but reckoned idle and incontinent. The number of sheep that feed upon the mountains is incredible: it is said, that Merionethshire feeds more sheep than all the rest of Wales. The only manufacture is Welch cotton.

HARLECK, or HARLEIGH, 223 miles from Lond. situated on a steep rock near the sea, where there is a harbour for ships. The houses are mean, and the inhabitants few; but it has a garriſon for the security of the coast, and an old decayed and useless castle, originally a strong fort of the antient Britons. In the year 1694 the country about Harleck was annoyed above eight months with a fiery exhalation of a curl colour, which arose from the sea, and was seen only in the night. It set fire to barns, stacks of hay and corn in its way; infected the air, and blasted the graſs and herbage, so that a great mortality among the sheep, horses and cattle ensued. The flames were weak, and did no harm to the inhabitants, who frequently rushed into the midst of them to save their hay and corn. It was at length extinguished by blowing horns, ringing bells, firing guns, and putting the air in motion

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motion various ways, whenever it was seen to approach the shore.

DOLGELLY, 36 miles from Welsh Pool, 205 from Lond. is situated in a woody valley by the Avon, at the foot of the great mountain Idris, which, by computation is near 3 miles high, and one of the loftiest mountains in Britain. Here are commodious inns for travellers, and a good market for Welsh cottons. It is said, that the church steeple, in which there hangs a bell, is a yew-tree that grows in the mountain.

BALA, 195 miles from Lond. is a small ill-built market town, situated near Pimple Meer.

In the N. W. point of the county a Roman way is still visible, called Helen's Way, being supposed to be made by Helen, the mother of Constantine the Great.

The only seat of note we are acquainted with in this shire, is that belonging to William Vaughan, Esq; at Nonna, near Dolgelly.

CAERNARVONSHIRE.

THIS, before Wales was divided into counties, was called Snowden Forest; and is bounded on the S. by Merionethshire and the Irish Sea; on the E. by Denbighshire, and on the W. and N. by the Irish Sea. It is about 40 miles in length, 20 in breadth, and 95 in circumference; containing seven hundreds, one city, one borough, six market towns, and 3 castles. It is a very mountainous country, one swelling above another, especially in the middle, where the tops of many are covered with snow seven or eight months in the year, and are therefore termed the British Alps. It is, however, tolerably fertile, especially in barley; and numerous herds of cattle, sheep and goats are fed on the mountains. That part bordering on the Irish sea is very fruitful and populous.

In this shire is that remarkable mountain called Pen-meen-Mawr; it is situated in the N. part of the shire,
P
where

where it hangs perpendicularly over the sea, at so vast a height, that it makes the spectator giddy who ventures to look down the dreadful steep. In the narrow passage on the other side, the adventurous traveller is threatened every moment to be crushed to atoms, with the fall of impending rocks. But that horrid chasm in the rock is not only rendered perfectly safe, but an object of great curiosity, by reducing a difficult, extensive, and unpromising attempt to the same accuracy and compactness, as is to be found in the most familiar piece of masonry. The stones of all magnitudes, so frequently rolling from above, and blocking up the road, to the great danger of the traveller, are now prevented annoying him, by a wall—erected to intercept the fragments of the falling rocks; and the waters running down the sides are conveyed by well contrived recesses under the road into the sea. But the present easy elevation of the new road is the chief merit of this great work; instead of the narrow, sharp, and dangerous declivity of the old way, you may now pass this tremendous road on an easy trot; and as the dreadful chasm, which split that part of the road and rock was too large for any single arch to span over, the architect has, from the foot of the precipice where the sea beats, turned a great number of arches, and upon them raised others in different flights, or stories, till he completed the line which forms the road, extending a mile, with a parapet wall the whole length on the side of the sea, so that the raging of that element such a depth beneath, instead of being, as heretofore, an object of horror, gives every pleasure that so glorious a scene can inspire.

CAERNARVON, 251 miles from Lond. is situated on the channel that separates this shire from the Isle of Anglesey, and was built by the command of Edward I. out of the ruins of the city Sagontium, which stood a little below it. The town has a beautiful prospect of the Isle of Anglesey, and is rather strong both by nature and art. It is a small but clean well built town, and the market is supplied with corn, and all sorts of provisions. The old castle was the seat of the British princes about the

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the year 600. Edward of Caernarvon, the first Prince of Wales of the English blood, afterwards Edward II. was born in this castle.

BANGOR, 12 miles from Caernarvon, 247 from Lond. stands at the N. end of the same firth, or arm of the sea, which separates Anglesey from this county. It was formerly a very large place, and defended by a strong castle; but at present is of very little note, except for being the see of a bishop, and containing 107 parishes. The cathedral is by some reckoned the most antient in England. It is kept in good repair, two thirds of the rectory of Llandinam being settled to support it. The chief buildings here are the bishop's palace, and free-school house.

CONWAY, or **ABER-CONWAY**, ten miles from Bangor, 232 from Lond. was built by Edward I. out of the ruins of the antient Conovium, and is one of the pleasantest towns in the county; being situated on the declivity of a hill, on the banks of a fine navigable river, which empties itself about two miles off into the sea, at the entrance of that arm which separates Anglesey from Wales. It is reckoned the best port on this side of Britain; but the town is old and decayed, and only shews what it might by trade be brought to. The walls of the now ruined castle were strengthened with 35 watch-towers, which being very white, make a pretty appearance at a distance.

SALT-POOL, or **PWL-HELI**, 15 miles from Caernarvon, is a small town, tolerably well built; has a market for corn and other provisions, and little trade by sea.

The principal remains of antiquity in this shire are,

DOLWYDDELAN CASTLE, which signifies the castle of the valley of Helen's Wood; it stands on an antient road, said to have been made by Helena, the mother of Constantine the Great. This castle was built by the Britons on their first retreat into Wales, A. D. 500.

DOLBADERN CASTLE, situated at the foot of Snowden-hill, seems to have been an antient British fort.

CLUNOKVAUR ABBEY, is an antient structure, and has been a collegiate church.

SEATS.

Sir Thomas Wynne's, at Bodvyan, and
Mr. Bodvell's, at Madrin.

DENBIGHSHIRE

IS bounded on the S. by Merioneth and Montgomery-shires; on the W. by those of Merioneth and Caernarvon; on the E. by Shropshire and Cheshire; and on the N. by Flintshire and the Irish Sea. It is about 31 miles in length, 17 in breadth, and 71 in circumference; containing 12 hundreds, 4 market towns, and 57 parishes. The W. and E. parts of this county are healthy, barren, thinly inhabited, except some small fertile spots; but the middle part, called the vale of Clwyd, is pleasant, fruitful, healthy, and much inhabited by gentry. The air is reckoned healthy, but rendered sharp and piercing by a vast chain of mountains, which almost surround the county, and for the most part of the year are covered with snow. The soil is various, and almost in the extremities of good and bad. The hills, on the eastern borders of the county, look, at a certain distance, like the battlements or turrets of castles. The inhabitants in general are long lived: those in the vale of Clywd are remarkable for their vivacity.

DENBIGH, 210 miles from Lond. is a handsome, large, populous town, on the banks of the Iftrod, and was at first built on a steep rock, but by process of time has been removed to the bottom of it. It stands on a branch of the Clwyd, has a good trade, and is by some esteemed the best town in North Wales. It has a good market for corn, cattle, and other provisions; and two churches. Here are the ruins of a castle dismantled in the civil wars; and also those of an abbey of black monks, founded and endowed by Adam Salisbury, in the reign of Henry III.

RUTHIN, 5 miles from Denbigh, stands near the center of the county, is a very populous and large town, and has

has the greatest market in the vale of Clwyd. Here are the remains of an antient castle. Among the hills S. W. of Ruthin is a place called Kerig y Druidion, the Druid Stones; and here are still to be seen 2 stone monuments, supposed to have been erected by the ancient Druids. They are in the form of chests or cells, but for what use at first intended is not conjectured.

WREXHAM, 10 miles from Ruthin, 184 from Lond. is by some reckoned the largest town in N. Wales. It is situated on a small river which falls into the Dee; it is well-built, and has a large church, in which are many antient monuments. In the steeple or tower, which is very high, are about 52 statues as big as the life.

LHANSANNAM, 7 miles from Denbigh, is noted for a cave in the side of a rock, containing 24 seats, much frequented by shepherds and others who attend their cattle, and is now called Arthur's round table.

LLANGOLLEN, is a small town, about 180 miles from London, 12 miles from Oswestry, and 4 from Chirk castle. It is seated in a small vale on the river Dee, over which there is an elegant stone bridge of four or five arches, the piers of which rest upon the solid rock that there forms the intire bed of the river. The rapidity of the current occasions a foam and noise at once pleasing and awful; and almost every ten yards, the stream is broken into agreeable cascades. About a mile distant is Castle Dinas, supposed to have been built by a prince Brenus, who withdrew to Rome, where he died. This castle stands on the top of a most strange hill extreamly difficult to ascend; and the tradition of the country is, that great treasures are concealed within it, in an iron cradle, of which the Devil has the care. No one had the boldness to search for these riches until the year 1766, when a noted conjuror in the neighbourhood, with some miners, came to an agreement with the proprietor for leave to dig: but they soon desisted from a distrust lest the money concealed might be inferior to gold or silver. It is said prince Brenus left papers behind him in Italy, giving account of the treasure in this castle, which were lately discovered, and it is certain, that two Italian gen-

men applied to the proprietor for permission to search the ruins, but could not agree with him about it.

The great hill called Keven Mena, near this place, commands one of the most ravishing prospects that can be conceived. Llangollen, and the country within two miles round, exhibit, according to some, the greatest curiosity, and the most romantic and astonishing scenes on the face of the castle.

At LLANROOST is a bridge over the river Conway, built by Inigo Jones, and said to be his master-piece.

At PISTIL RHAIAD'R there is a noble cascade or cataract, the like to which is not in this island, or perhaps in Europe; where the fall of water from the mountains to the lower pool is near 240 feet. About the middle there is a large bason, through the outer bank of which the water has forced its way, and left an arch, over which the shepherds, who climb the rocks, sometimes creep.

The first fall is a large perpendicular sheet, which being broken by the rock, is turned on one side, and has a fine effect; it then falls into the bason already mentioned, from which it descends through the breach it has worn near 18 feet, but in a narrower stream, turning still to the southward, to another bason, from whence it falls perpendicularly to the bottom. When there happens to be a flood, the water shoots quite beyond these lodgements, and falls the whole depth in one amazing stream: an effect which might be produced at pleasure by making a reservoir at the top of the mountain.

This cataract gives name to the parish; Pistil in the British language signifying a spout, and Rhaiad'r a cataract.

In this county are a great variety of ruined castles, forts and intrenchments, some of which are supposed to be Roman, but the greatest part British.

SEATS.

The Earl of Derby's, at Holt-castle.
 Sir Watkin Williams Wynn's, at Winstay.
 Sir Robert Salusbury's, at Llewenny, near Denbigh.
 Richard Middleton's, Esq; at Chirk Castle.
 John Wynne's, Esq; at Melay.

FLINT.

FLINTSHIRE

IS bounded on the N. by the great æstuary of the Dee; on the E. by Cheshire and Shropshire; and on the S. and W. by Denbighshire. It is about 33 miles in length, 8 in breadth, and 40 in circumference; containing five hundreds, one city, one borough, 3 market-towns, 4 castles, and two parks. The soil, particularly in the vallies, is very fruitful both in corn and pasture, which feeds abundance of small cattle; and in some of its mountains are rich mines of lead. The air of this county is cold, but healthy, as appears by the long lives of the inhabitants.

FLINT, 195 miles from Lond. is the shire town, and stands on the æstuary of the Dee; it had formerly a castle, the ruins of which are still remaining. It was begun by Henry II. and finished by Edward I.

St. Asaph, 212 miles from Lond. is a city and bishop's see, situated in the vale of Clwyd, at the conflux of the Elwy with the Clwyd; but the buildings are not remarkable for beauty, nor the church for elegance. The episcopal see was founded in the year 560, by Kentigern bishop of Glasgow, in Scotland, who resigned it to his disciple Asaph, from whom it has its name.

HOLYWELL, or ST. WINIFRID'S WELL, four miles from St. Asaph, is a pretty large well built village, situated in the middle of a grove between two hills. It has its name from a spring, which, on the credit of Popish legends, rose there miraculously in memory of St. Winifrid, a christian virgin, who was here ravished and beheaded by a Pagan tyrant. To this spring have been ascribed, by Monkish writers, many miraculous cures. In commemoration of her, a neat chapel was hewn out of the rock of free stone over the well; it is now turned into a protestant school; but the Roman Catholics, to supply the loss of this chapel, have erected others, with a priest to officiate, almost in every inn, for the devotion of pilgrims who resort thither.

CAERWYS, 5 miles from Flint, is reckoned the chief market town in the county, and stands near the centre of it, between St. Asaph and Flint.

SEATS.

Sir Roger Mostyn's, Bart, at Mostyn.

Sir John Glynn's, Haywarden Castle, near Flint.

Sir George Wynne's, Bart. at Leesward, near Northop.

Sir Thomas Hanmer's, Bart. at Hanmer.

ANGLESEY.

THIS county is an Island; was known to the Romans by the name of *Mona*, and is celebrated for having been more particularly the seat of the Druids. It is encompassed on all sides by the Irish sea, except on the S. E. where it is divided from Caernarvonshire, by the frith of Meneu, which in some places is fordable at low water. It is about 24 miles in length, 17 in breadth, and 60 in circumference; containing six hundreds, two market towns, two chaces, 74 parishes, and 363 villages. It is very fruitful in corn, cattle, fish and fowl. It also produces, plenty of mill-stones, grind-stones, and some alum.

ANGLESEY, with her sister the Isle of Man, have been thought to be the Elysian Fields and Fortunate Islands so much talked of by the ancients. The general name *Mona*, imports both a *solitary place*, and *furthermost island*. The language first brought over to the island of Albion, probably continued in it for many ages after, and consequently must be the first language used and spoken in the isle of Anglesey. The Celtic or British language was undoubtedly one of the primary vocal modes and expressions of mankind after the dispersion at Babel, when the nations of the earth divided themselves into separate communities and plantations, and diffusing itself into the western part of Europe, at last crept into this corner the Isle of *Mona*. This first and common language, from the
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the improvements it underwent in different provinces of the isle of Britain, became diversified into different dialects, and in after ages appeared to strangers like so many languages: as the Welch, Highland Scotch, and Irish do now, though all proceeding from one common fountain the antient Celtic or British. And it is evident, that the present Welsh tongue, spoken in Anglesey, is that very language brought in by her first inhabitants, enlarged and polished by the learned Druids, modulated and sweetened by the antient bards, and kept up and cultivated to this day by the enamoured votaries of the British muses. These ancient Druids fixed and stablished themselves in this island as their chief seat and residence. They were the heathenish priests and ministers of religion of the antient Britons and Gauls, chosen out of the best families, and held in the greatest veneration. They had the administration of all sacred things, and were the judges of all affairs indifferently. The youth used to be instructed by them, retiring with them to caves and forests. They preserved the memory and actions of great men by their verses; and are said to have sacrificed men to Mercury. Their custom of celebrating the oak, and using formed groves of oak for their public ministrations and solemn performances, took their origin, most probably, in common with that of Abraham's, from the Antediluvian practice, the first temples or local consecrations being groves of oak. In many parts of the island are to be seen either standing or thrown down, divers monuments of Druidical worship.

BEAUMARIS, 242 miles from Lond. is a handsome well built town, on the E. side of the island, and has a good harbour for ships, a very handsome church, with some fine monuments of the Bulkeley's family, and the Knights Templars; it was formerly fortified with a strong castle, built by Edward I. the ruins of which still remain.

HOLY-HEAD, 28 miles from Beaumaris, 244 from Lond. is the station for the packet boat to Ireland, being the nearest land to Dublin. It is the most western point of Anglesey, but is a little island of itself, and has a small village

village, called in Welch Kaer Gybi, consisting of a heap of straggling houses built on rocks, but several of them have very comfortable accommodations for passengers, both with regard to lodging and diet. The church was formerly collegiate, and founded by one Kebius a hermit about the year 650. The walls of the church are the remains of a British fortification, built about the year 450, by Caswallon Lawhire, Lord of Anglesey.

NEWBURG, or NEWBOROUGH, 257 miles from Lond. is a small town situated on the south point of the island, between Maltrach harbour, or mouth of the river Keveny, and the Bay formed by the river Brant.

ABERFROW, a small village in that neighbourhood, was formerly famous for the palace of the Kings of North Wales, thence called Kings of Aberfrow.

PENMON PRIORY, situated in the N. E. part of the island, was founded by Gwynedd King of the Britons, about the year 540.

The only seat of note in this island is that of Lord Viscount Bulkeley, situated on the declivity of a hill above Beaumaris, having an elegant prospect both of Caernarvon Bay and the adjacent country.

The I S L E of M A N.

The present name of this island appears to be immediately derived from *Mona*, by which Julius Cæsar mentions it. Other writers have distinguished it from Anglesey, called also *Mona*, under the names of *Monoeda*, *Mona Menavia Secunda*, &c.

The Isle of Man, which is the see of a bishop, lies about half way between Great Britain and Ireland, directly west of Cumberland. It is about 30 miles long, and about 15 broad. The air here is cold and piercing, but healthy, the inhabitants living generally to a great age. It is rocky, mountainous, and barren, oats and potatoes being the chief produce of the lands, which the inhabitants manure with lime and sea wreck.

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The black cattle are generally less than those of England. In the mountains is a breed of small horses, little more than three feet high; also of small swine; and another of sheep that run wild on the mountains, which are accounted excellent food. Here is an airy of eagles, and three of hawks remarkably mottled. It is supposed to contain about 20,000 inhabitants, has four market towns, seventeen parishes, is a diocese of itself, and lies in the province of York.

CASTLE TOWN is the metropolis, where the Governor keeps his court, and where the courts of justice are held. The castle is built of marble, and surrounded with two broad walls and a moat, over which is a draw-bridge; and adjoining to it, within the walls, is a small tower where state prisoners were formerly confined.

DOUGLAS, situated on the western coast, is by much the most populous, and the best market in the island. It has of late encreased in trade, and proportionally in buildings. The harbour is the best in the British dominions.

PEEL, situated on the western coast, is a place of considerable trade. Upon a small island close to the town is Peel-Castle, one of the strongest in the world, and has a garrison in it. The island on which it stands is a stupendous rock inaccessible from all quarters but that of the town, from which it is separated by a narrow straight, fordable in low tides. Within one of the churches is a chapel appropriated to the use of the bishop, and underneath the chapel is a dungeon or prison, for offenders, one of the most dreadful places of confinement that imagination can form. The magnificence of the castle itself is said to exceed that of any modern structure in the world; the largeness and loftiness of the rooms, the fine echoes resounding through them, the many winding galleries, the prospect of the sea and the ships, which by reason of the vast height, appear like buoys floating on the waves, fill the mind of the spectator with the utmost astonishment.

RAMSAY, is situated on the east coast, towards the north part of island, and is only remarkable for a good fort,

fort, and an excellent harbour, north of which is a spacious bay, where the greatest fleets may ride at anchor with the utmost safety.

This island, in the time of the Romans, was inhabited by the Britons, but when that people were dispossessed of the greatest part of their territories by the Saxons, Scots and Picts, it fell to the share of the Scots; from whom the present inhabitants appear to be descended; their language being the Erse, the same that is spoken at this day in the Highlands of Scotland, and in Ireland.

The churches round Peel-Castle are supposed to have been originally Pagan temples. There is perhaps no country in which are more runic inscriptions than in this island, and most of them upon funeral monuments. Many sepulchral tumuli or barrows, are yet remaining in different parts. About half a mile from Douglas are still standing some noble remains of a most magnificent nunnery. The Scottish writers affirm, that the Isle of Man was converted to christianity about the year 360; but it is more generally believed, that christianity was planted here by St. Patrick about 447.

The Bishop is stiled Bishop of Sodor and Man; whence he derived the title of Sodor is uncertain, and is variously accounted for, perhaps from a church at Peel, dedicated to *Suweg*, our Saviour, thence originally called *Ecclesia Soterensis*, corrupted into *Sodorenfis*. The Bishop, though a Baron of the island, has no seat in parliament. In the several courts of the island, as well ecclesiastical as civil, both parties, whether men or women, plead their own causes. It is only of late years that attornies came into any practice here, and still law-suits are determined without much expence. The manner of summoning a person before a magistrate is remarkable enough. Upon a piece of thin slate, or stone, the magistrate makes a mark, which is generally the initials of his name; this is shewn by the proper officer to the person summoned; he acquaints him with the time and place in which he is to make his appearance, and at whose suit; and if he disobeys the summons, he is fined and committed to goal till he give security for his future obedience, and pay costs.

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The Isle of Man, though held by the British crown, was, till of late, no part of the kingdom of Great Britain; but was governed by its own laws and customs under the hereditary dominion of a Lord, who formerly had the title of King, and who, though he long ago waved that title, was to the last invested with regal rights and prerogatives. But in the year 1765, for the further and more effectually preventing the mischiefs arising to the revenue and commerce of Great Britain and Ireland, from the illicit and clandestine trade carried on, to and from the isle of Man; it was thought expedient to vest in the crown all rights, jurisdictions and interests in and over the said island, and all its dependencies holden by the proprietors, the Duke and Dutchess of Athol; who then surrendered the same, excepting only their landed property, and the patronage of the Bishopric of Sodor and Man, the temporalities of the same when vacant, and all patronages and ecclesiastical benefices. Upon this annexation of the island, the sum of 70,000*l.* was paid as full compensation to the proprietors, according to their own proposals to the commissioners of the treasury. This contract was executed by both parties under the authority of parliament, April 19; 1765. The inducement for giving so large a sum was probably the clear revenue of the isle for ten years, from 1754 to 1763, which had been laid before parliament, and appeared at a medium to be 7293*l.* 0*s.* 6½*d.* per annum.

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